

HOME NEWS

Newspaper merger approval took staffs by surprise

By David Felton

The announcement of the closing of the *Evening News* and its merger with the *Evening Standard* was made yesterday after the Government said it had no objection. It came as a surprise to unions and staff working on the two newspapers.

Lord Matthews, chairman of Express Newspapers, which owns the *Evening Standard*, confessed surprise that he had not been given prior warning by the Department of Trade before it announced that a merger would not be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

Details of the agreement with Associated Newspapers Group, which owns the *Evening News*, were given to local union officials who were said by Lord Matthews to be "not very happy".

The *Evening News* is due to cease publication at the end of the month, and union officials were warned last night by the newspaper's executives that if there was any interruption in publication before the planned closure date redundancy payments could be affected.

A new-style *Evening Standard* with a print run of 600,000 and 700,000 will go on sale the day after the closure of its rival which would have celebrated its centenary next year. Lord Matthews expressed the hope that the new newspaper would contain the best features of both publications.

Mr Charles Winnur, who has been editor of the *Evening Standard* for most of the past 20 years, will step down and Express Newspapers has resisted pressure from Associated Newspapers that Mr Louis Kirby, editor of the *Evening News*, should be editor of the new newspaper.

The financial arrangements surrounding the deal were not revealed in detail by Lord Matthews, but it is understood that Associated has paid more than £1m for half the assets of the *Evening Standard* Company.

Lord Matthews said that since the early spring there had been a dramatic fall in the amount of advertisements carried by the newspapers. "We were both faced with the possibility that either one could have to close," he said.

"I believe that Fleet Street will see further casualties unless there is a very big change in thinking and the use of all technologies that are available to keep prices at a level to enable circulations to grow instead of fall," he added.

Restrictive practices by the trade unions had been a big factor in the crisis now facing Fleet Street, Lord Matthews said, but he believed that present agreements with printing workers at the *Evening Standard* would enable a much larger print run to be achieved.

Despite selling Associated a half stake in the *Evening Standard*, Lord Matthews will have final control with a casting vote on all important issues. Leading article, page 15



Lord Matthews, chairman of Express Newspapers, with yesterday's copies of the "Evening Standard" and the doomed "Evening News".

Decline and fall of the 'Evening News'

By Robin Young

Twenty years ago London had three evening newspapers with a combined circulation of nearly four million copies a day. The *Star*, the cockney paper, died 20 years ago. The *Evening News* and *Evening Standard* fought on and fought each other, but by June their combined circulations had shrunk to under 900,000 and their losses mounted. It was inevitable one or the other would go to the wall.

The announcement yesterday that the *Evening News* will soon cease publication with the loss of 1,750 jobs and that a new *Evening Standard* will serve London surprised nobody in the pugnacious world of newspaper editors.

Three years ago the story could have been different. Then, Associated Newspapers, the mother company of the *Evening News*, made a determined attempt to take over its evening rival, but the merger did not happen, at first stopped by a counter-bid from Sir James Goldsmith and Mr Roland (Tiny) Rowland.

A few months later, in July 1977, Beaverbrook Newspapers, the owner of the *Evening Standard*, was bought by the robust Trafalgar House group for £14m and renamed Express Newspapers. Rumours continued about the likelihood of a single London evening newspaper, but this time the future of the *Evening News* in spite of its large circulation, was clearly in doubt.

The sad, dramatic decline in the fortunes of the two newspapers is clearly demonstrated by the circulation figures. In 1959, the *Evening News* was selling nearly 1.3 million copies a day, the *Evening Standard* a daily circulation of 1.75 million and the *Evening Standard* sold 861,000.

Fierce competition for advertising

In June this year, the *Evening News*'s circulation was down to 462,000 and the *Evening Standard* only 521,000. According to Mr Matthews, chairman of Express Newspapers, said the *Evening Standard* had lost more than £1m in the past financial year and the *Evening News* was losing between £7m and £8m.

The decision to abandon the two newspapers was a result of the fierce competition for advertising which has been a major factor in the decline of both papers.

Mr Matthews said the *Evening Standard* was a "down market" popular evening paper as a rival.

Divorce and the myth of the young woman

By John Witherow

Middle-aged men who claim wives rarely run a myth younger women, according to a survey yesterday by the Campaign for Divorce.

The Financial Age and Divorce survey shows that the average age of women who divorce is 35 years, a third of whom are under 30.

The survey of 133 divorced women, published before Law Commission releases papers on the financial aspects of divorce law, found that most women were more than £10,000 a year worse off after divorce.

Overall, however, it was found that 41 per cent of women who divorce are likely to have a better career and control of their own lives.

Lower income divorcees were also less likely to be satisfied with their financial situation.

Of the 100 women who had been divorced for more than 10 years, 42 per cent of the women were better off than when they were married.

When the women were not better off, they were on average 46 per cent worse off than when they were married.

The reasons were not for lack of extraordinary "living" but the survey suggests that, in some cases, it was caused by the wife losing pension rights because of divorce, or by the wife being a housewife where her income from earnings maintenance on average about one-third of the husband's income.

The survey also found that 41 per cent of the women who had been divorced for more than 10 years were better off than when they were married.

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Sadness and resignation among Northcliffe House men

By Richard Ford

Outside Northcliffe House, where the *Evening News* is published, the unofficial billboard told the story to passers-by with the words "The End is Nigh".

It summed up the sadness felt by the employees who will lose their jobs when the paper closes at the end of the month, and reflects the feeling they have lived with for many years.

For rumour and gossip about the future of London's largest selling newspaper has been constant among those who work in Fleet Street, although many of the staff had been resigned to the paper's closure one day or other, they were stunned at the speed with which the end has come.

They were said that a newspaper about to celebrate its centenary is to die, and sad, too, that a paper renowned for its friendliness and happy atmosphere has finally succumbed to the financial pressures of considerable losses.

Those estimated at £7m in the 11 months of the financial year that ended on September 30.

But amid the sadness and resignation was much bitterness at the way the issue had been handled by the management, whose staff first knew of the decision to close the paper when a Department of Trade official telephoned them with the information.

About fifty journalists marched from the building to Carmelite House near by, demanding to see Mr E. Winnur, managing director of Harmsworth Publications, to find out what was going on. He was prepared to see a deputation of 10 who were told about the closure.

Mr Ron Burdett, father of the chapel (office branch) of the National Union of Journalists, and an employee on the *Evening News* for 16 years, said: "It was not a total surprise as we have lived through so many crises, but when it finally came it was naturally a shock."

Our feelings are of anxiety and chagrin but the *Evening News* is finished."

Among other journalists there was anger at the way the management had kept them in the dark about the decisions affecting their future. Mr David Melton said: "We've been struck by the suddenness and stunned by the speed of the way in which it has all happened. But there is anger that the management did not see fit to keep us properly informed about what was going on."

Mr Melton said the chapel thought that one of the reasons why most of the journalists on the *Evening News* were to be made redundant was that they were on contracts with three months' notice, while, at the *Evening Standard*, there was a year's notice, which made redundancy much cheaper at the *Evening News*.

Mr Guy Simpson, deputy picture editor, said that many people had probably believed that the paper would close some day, but that it was still sad when the decision was finally made, and sad because it meant less variety for the public.

Mr Derek Keen, father of the chapel for the *Evening News*, said: "I am not surprised, but of course we are concerned. For me and for many others it was not a question of if, but a question of when."

Another man who has worked there for 34 years was close to tears as he walked from the building, saying that the workers were the last to know "it has not sunk in yet just what this all means."

Across Fleet Street, at the *Evening Standard*, there was sympathy for fellow-workers being made redundant, and an understanding of the reasons why the paper was closing.

One man, who said: "We are all in the same boat and we are all going to be affected by this. It is healthy to have opposition."

Among other Fleet Street workers there was speculation as to whether, with the *Evening News* gone by the end of the month, another newspaper magazine would start a "down market" popular evening paper as a rival.

At the next meeting of the TUC General Council:

Mr Weighell said this rail union also stood firm over its attitude to free speech in the trade union movement, an issue bitterly debated the day before he was ousted when Mr Frank Chapple, the electricians' union leader, was dismissed from the TUC's inner cabinet.

Ever since the events last week he said he had been expecting a meeting with the transport union, but it had not happened because the transport workers kept making excuses.

"I want to know where we stand," Mr Weighell said. And, in a reference to Mr Evans, he added: "Does he want to continue a working association or have constant friction and hostility?"

The rail leader had been particularly incensed by Mr Alexander Kitson, the deputy leader of the transport union, who, he said, had supported Mr Smith's nomination only a few days after asking for rail union help in the dock strike.

Shell workers reject pay offer of 11pc

By Our Labour Staff

Leaders of 3,700 Shell refinery and chemical workers have rejected an 11 per cent pay offer from the company which is linked to a reduction in the working week.

The offer, which closely follows advice from the Confederation of British Industry and government ministers, was described by senior union negotiators as having "a political flavour". Further talks are to be held next week a day after a joint meeting of senior shop stewards from Shell and British Petroleum.

That meeting is expected to threaten industrial action against both companies if there is not a big improvement in pay offers. BP has offered a 10 per cent increase to its staff at the Grangemouth refinery in Scotland and 11 per cent at the Great Ouseford in Kent.

The unions, led by the Transport and General Workers' Union, had asked for substantial increases with longer holidays and a shorter working week. The total claim was thought to amount to more than 20 per cent.

Shell offered a 37-hour week to be introduced from October 1983.

Esso men join protest

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Pact reached to end crane drivers' strike

A settlement to end the two-week strike by 3,000 mobile crane drivers at building sites throughout the country has been agreed and will be put to the men at mass meetings today. Union leaders are confident of a return to work tomorrow.

The agreement, which was hammered out during nine hours of talks at the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service, will include the reinstatement of about five hundred crane drivers in the North-east and South Wales who were dismissed after operating an overtime ban.

The overtime ban was called by the construction section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers after a breakdown in negotiations with construction plant employers over rates to be paid to drivers for maintaining their cranes.

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HOME NEWS

NUJ intimidating 'Times' staff seeking to resign from union over strike, IOJ claims

The free press has been locked out of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) since the union's recent strike. The union's recent strike was a major victory for the union, but it has also led to a major loss of freedom of the press, according to the Institute of Journalism (IOJ).

The IOJ, which is a non-union body, has been set up to represent the interests of the free press. It has been accused of intimidating the 'Times' staff, who are seeking to resign from the union over the strike. The IOJ claims that the 'Times' staff are being forced to resign from the union, which is a breach of the union's rules.

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Traffic set to expand, road federation says

That was already happening, he pointed out, with people dropping out of the car, and road transport taking over a larger share of business.

Road traffic's share of total energy usage had remained steady at 27 per cent since 1978.

Other statistics showed that Britain's road safety record last year was the best for 20 years, with 6,350 deaths, fewer than 50 years ago when traffic was under a tenth of today's level.

Car and light motor vehicle use continued to rise with 14,500,000 cars and 1,800,000 goods vehicles in 1979, against 14,000,000 and 1,600,000 in 1978.

Britain's motor vehicle trade moved into the top five in the world, with 24,300,000 cars and 2,400,000 goods vehicles exported in 1979.

Britain's roads were among the most crowded in Europe, with an average of 45 vehicles a kilometre against 38 in the EEC as a whole.

Road users paid £7,000 in taxes and got back £2,200,000 in road improvements.

Basic Road Statistics, 1980 (British Road Federation, 338 Oxford Street, London W1N 9BE, £3).

sh TV plans incorporated in Broadcasting Bill

Artis-Reporter, taking given by the Secretary last month Welsh language proposals on the four television channels are incorporated into the Broadcasting Bill published today.

William Whitelaw, indicating that he had accepted nations made to him by the Welsh Office, said he would be should for Welsh language proposals to be concentrated on the fourth channel from the fifth the possibility of a two-channel transmission.

The fourth channel will have overall responsibility for the channel and to ensure in particular substantial proportion of time in Welsh.

It is required to supply the authority with Welsh news free of charge and spend Broadcasting Corporation's Welsh contractor in payment.

Police fear Home Office wants to lower standards attract more black and Asian cadets

"Floated" at their first meeting.

The present education standards for the recruitment of four O-levels, of the passing of an entry examination. The working party has been asked to look at the possibility of setting a new standard for entry, creating a two-tier entry system.

The possibility has also been raised of reducing the minimum height requirement to 5ft 6in for men to cater for Asian recruits.

The working party is in the early stages of its deliberations, but opposition has already come from the Police Federation, which represents more than 100,000 officers in England and Wales. The federation believes it also the support of other groups within the police, but at times when it is difficult to attract adults the police can usually rely on cadets' school-leavers, to fill the gaps.

The federation does not believe changes would draw more recruits because, it says, there is an inherent antipathy in the minority community towards joining the service.

Mr Basil Griffiths, vice-chairman of the Police Federation, said: "Professional standards of the police service are more important than recruiting ethnic minorities. He told the congress that anyone was welcome to join the police force, but not if it meant devaluing professional standards."

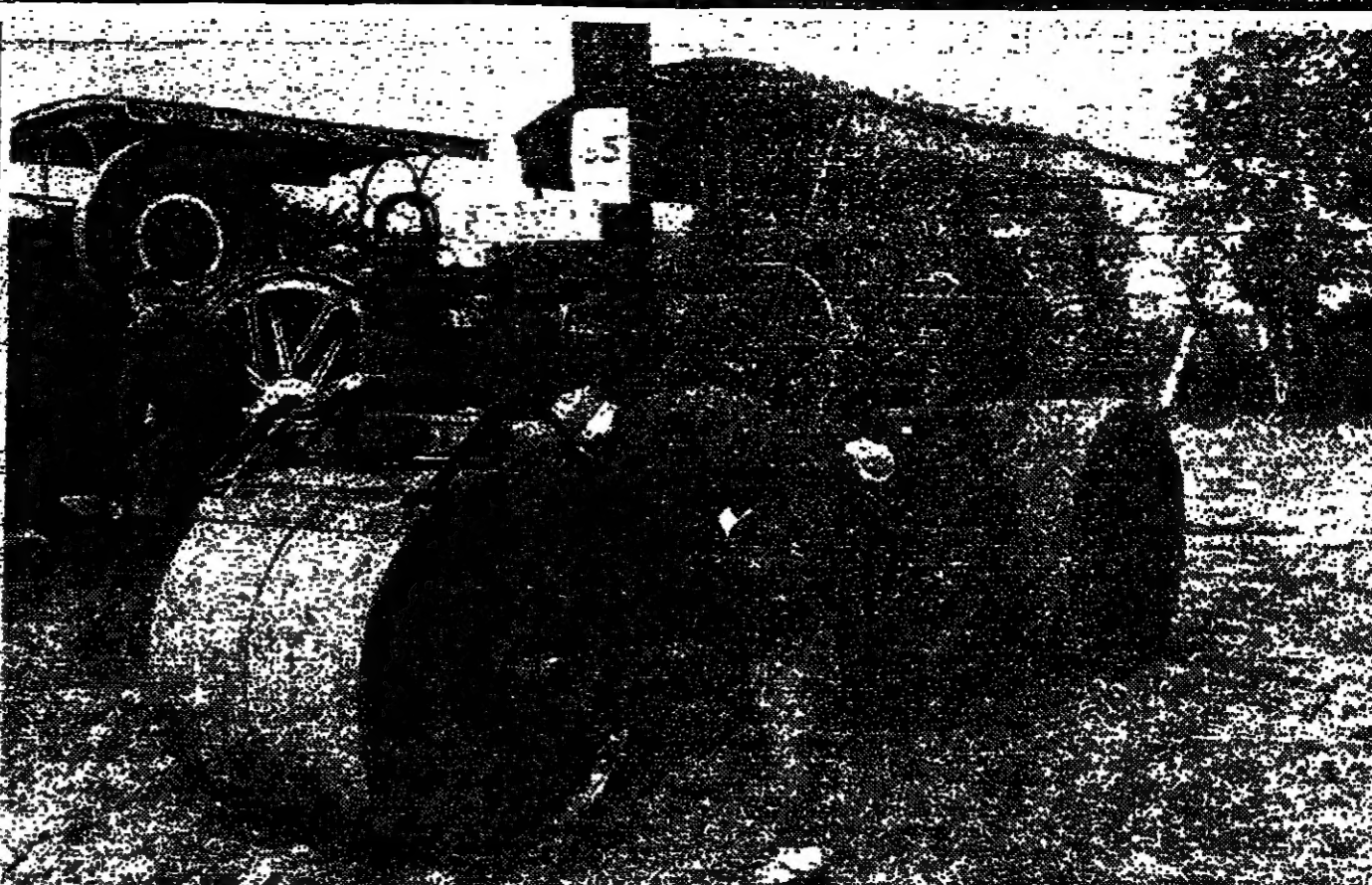
He was replying to a speech by Mr David Lane, chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality, who had said that there was a need to recruit more officers from minority groups. Mr Lane told the congress that the police should be "a melting pot of all races and religions, in which majority and minority communities moved towards each other."

The police had a vital role to play in race relations, and though much had been done, there was still much more to do. There were several ways in which relations between the police and minorities could be improved.

Mr Lane said there should be more training in race relations "on the job". It would, he added, "help to remove prejudice in some police officers."

Community relations officers should be seen by their police colleagues as performing an important job and not seen as doing something that was less than full-blooded policing. At the same time it was vital that senior police officers gave a lead in race relations. Mr Lane added: "They can make all the difference in a particular area by giving greater priority to race relations."

During the debate a French representative spoke of the racial issues in France and said that the police and black were deliberately picked on by some of his colleagues. A motion by the French delegation opposing racism and calling on all member unions not to support a policeman who had taken part in racial activities was passed by the congress without opposition.



Close inspection of one of the late Mr Thomas Paisley's collection of 29 steam rollers and traction engines auctioned near St Ives, Cambridgeshire, yesterday.

Universities warned of danger to credibility

Universities have been seriously damaged their credibility by the Government by predicting that the new high fees for overseas students would produce a drastic fall in numbers.

Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University, said yesterday.

Speaking at his reinstallation, Sir Peter said: "Even a year ago we had none too much credibility in Whitehall. If the general forecast that the imposition even of the new minimum fees would lead to an immediate halving of new overseas students turns out to be badly wrong, we will be left with scarcely any credibility at all."

Universities probably would keep up their number of overseas students, but would be in financial trouble because most had chosen to charge the minimum fees recommended by the Government rather than the true economic cost, which was what the Government would be deducting from the universities' grant.

Sir Peter criticized the Government for having hastily produced a policy on overseas fees full of anomalies and even absurdities. But the universities must realize that the £100m that the new policy was designed to save was not negotiable. Any proposals that universities made must recognize that, otherwise they would be ignored.

Group attacks policy on young offenders

The Government was accused last night of ignoring evidence of an "appalling failure" in the placing of juvenile delinquents in custody or residential institutions.

Justice for Children, a pressure group, was responding to disclosures in *The Times* yesterday that a White Paper to be published today will propose a new residential care order enabling magistrates to remove juvenile offenders from home.

The organization said that 80 per cent of those leaving hospital, 73 per cent of those leaving detention centres, and about 70 per cent of those leaving community homes offended again within two years. But recent research indicated that there was a significantly lower rate of offending again when children who committed similar offences were allowed to remain in their own homes.

The new residential care order, the organization said, was an extension of the Government's retrogressive policies towards young offenders, which had led to increasing numbers being locked up with little reformative effect and at great public expense.

As disclosed in *The Times* yesterday, the new residential care order will allow magistrates to order that a young offender should be removed from his home for up to six months. But the power will be available only when the offender is appearing on a new charge and is already subject to a care order resulting from a previous offence.

Prince Philip award for oil rig rescuers

A helicopter crew who saved 10 survivors from the capsized oil rig Alexander Kieland in the North Sea and directed the rescue of 26 others are to be given the Prince Philip award by the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators (GAPAN).

The crew from RAF Boulmer in Northumberland, consisted of Flight Lieutenant R. E. Neville, Flight Lieutenant M. J. Lakey, Flight Sergeant J. K. Moody and Flight Sergeant C. M. Yewwood.

GAPAN is to present the Johnston memorial trophy to Captain Gordon Vette and Mr Malcolm Forsyth, New Zealand Airways pilots, who on a flight to Auckland shepherded a lost light aircraft.

The Derry and Richard memorial medal is to go to Mr John Farley, a British Aerospace test pilot based at Orosford, Surrey, for "an outstanding, unequalled contribution" to the development of the Harrier vertical and short take-off fighter. Lieutenant-Commander D. R. Taylor, RN, inventor of the "slid-jump" which allows takeoff by the aircraft, is to receive the Sir James Martin award.

Bravery medal: An RAF helicopter winchman who saved 12 men after a fishing boat capsized, has been awarded the Air Force Cross for bravery (the Press Association reports). Master Air Loadmaster Robert Danes, of RAF Valley, Anglesey, plunged into the sea after the boat was hit by a wave.

Don't miss the boat this Christmas.

If you have friends overseas, you'll want your Christmas greetings and presents to arrive on time. Which means posting them on time. And for some places, that may be sooner than you think.

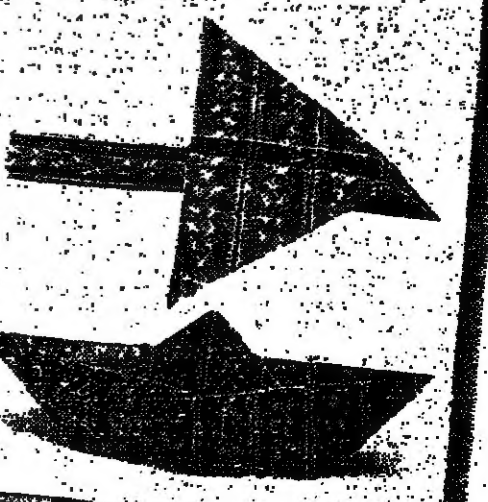
Overseas Christmas Mail 1980

Recommended last posting dates

DESTINATION	ALL MAIL	PARCELS AND PACKETS	LETTERS AND POSTCARDS
	Surface	Airmail	Airmail
Far East and Australasia	6 Oct	1 Dec	1 Dec
Middle and Near East	13 Oct	3 Dec	8 Dec
Africa	6 Oct	1 Dec	3 Dec

Details of latest recommended posting dates for overseas Christmas mail to all areas are in this leaflet. Pick it up at any post office - and spread some good cheer overseas.

Royal Mail
Get the most from your post



Mr. Kibson, replying, said that Northern Ireland needed a Labour government determined to create jobs, save industry and defend the public service. There were no simple solutions to the difficulties of Northern Ireland. They were too complex and too deep-seated to be resolved by slogans and catchwords.

It rejected the bipartisan policies of the Parliamentary Labour Party.

NEWSociety
EVERY THURSDAY 40p

IRAN/IRAQ WAR

Iran promises not to block Strait of Hormuz and continues to defend Ahvaz and Khorramshahr

From Tawfik Mislawi Beirut, Oct 1

Iran promised today it would not do anything that would lead to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, through which one third of the non-Communist world's oil has to pass.

A statement carried by Pars, the official Iranian news agency, said: "The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, fully aware of its international obligations, wishes to assure the international community that Iran shall not spare any effort to keep this waterway in full operation."

The statement added that several unnamed governments were considering intervening in the Gulf conflict under the pretext of concern over the possible closure of the strait.

Today's Iranian assurance, though it has been greatly welcomed by the West, does not mean that the danger to Gulf oil exports is over.

There is still a strong possibility that the conflict could spill over to the southern part of the Gulf, jeopardizing international shipping on the present battle scene, either Iraq or Iran might find it necessary to make a breakthrough elsewhere.

After 10 days of fighting the Iraqis seemed to have been stopped from advancing. The principal cities which Iraq claimed to have conquered are still holding out. These include Ahvaz, the provincial capital of Khuzestan, and the vital port of Khorramshahr. The oil city of Abadan is still under siege.

A broadcast from Abadan radio stated today that street fighting was taking place in Khorramshahr, apparently in an Iraqi attempt to capture the city.

Tehran radio claimed that 21 Iraqi tanks were destroyed and two Iraqi fighter jets shot down during battles in the southern front, near the dis-



puted Shatt al-Arab waterway. Iraq, however, claimed that Iranian jets were shot down during the raid on Baghdad, and the Iraqi MIG fighters counter-attacked by bombing Iranian targets at Ahvaz and Abadan.

French evacuated: All the French engineers and technicians working on the installation of the Tamuz nuclear reactor near Baghdad have been evacuated to Jordan, according to the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) Murray writes from Paris. The reactor is not believed to have been damaged by a recent Iranian attack.

War reports: Three sailors were killed when Iranian jets attacked three Japanese, Greek and Kuwaiti merchant ships anchored near Basra, a Japanese report from Iraq said today.

Another Japanese report said Iraqi jets had bombed—for the second time—Iran's biggest industrial project, a petrochemicals plant being built on the Gulf.

Pars reported today that Iranian forces had recaptured the border town of Mehran from the Iraqi Army. The news agency said President Sanj-Sadr of Iran had announced the recapture of the city.

Diplomats in Tehran said today Iraqi artillery and aircraft had struck at Aodimeshk and Shush in Khuzestan province. The diplomats also reported that Dezful had suffered substantial damage from Iraqi attacks over the past three days.

Iraq said its forces had tightened their grip on Dezful and added its troops would control the city "at any moment" but were giving the enemy an opportunity to surrender before "they were crushed"—Reuters, UPI and AP.

Mr. Begin points out: "One knows when and how a war starts, not how it may spread." An indecisive result of the fighting, leaving both sides weaker, could be in the short term, satisfactory for Israel. But there are too many unknown factors in this complex equation.

An Iraqi victory would raise the spectre of a new regional superpower, and one particularly hostile to Israel. But also an Iraqi defeat could have disagreeable consequences for Iraq, in a revanchist mood, might intensify its nuclear programmes, which are particu-

larly worrying to Israel. To the foreign observer, visiting Israel after a two-year absence, this country's reactions to the Gulf crisis clearly show the positive effects of peace with Egypt, which is definitely making Israel feel much less isolated and insecure. Again, both Government and Opposition leaders appear to be deeply convinced that this peace is going to last since it satisfies the vital interests of both countries, and not just because President Sadat is a man to be trusted.

However, there remain, in spite of all that, many deep worries about the country's future. But here, Government and Opposition part company: there is a sharp division of opinion in Israel about the lessons to be drawn from the present crisis, in terms of Israeli policies.

Mr. Begin seems to believe that the question of "Palestinian Arabs" has now been shown to be a matter of only local importance. He feels that the status quo can go on more or less indefinitely, even if no agreement is reached with Egypt and the United States about Palestinian autonomy. He "sits nice and tight" or (as a friend of his jokingly says) "more tight than nice". Mr. Sol Linowitz, the American envoy to Israel, said he had heard a more evasive customer.

The Labour leaders, confident that they will again be in power in 1981, react to the present crisis in an opposite way. The existence of so many tensions and conflicts in the Middle East is taken as proof of the need to act vigorously in order to solve the Palestinian question now.

Only when a comprehensive peace is achieved, they feel, will Israel no longer be threatened by the future crises of the region. The Labour leaders still believe in the absolute moral and political need for Israel to stop ruling over a foreign people, in order to remain a democratic Jewish nation. They believe in partition and hope that by returning most occupied territories they can make peace with the Palestinians.

But while an agreement is still possible today, it might become impossible tomorrow when the quite unpredictable tides of history may have changed beyond recognition the political face of the Middle East. After all, Israel is perhaps still "at the centre of things".

World View

by Arrigo Levi

Israel happy to leave centre of the stage

Since the start of the Iran-Iraq war the Israelis have had the unusual feeling of not being "at the centre of things", and they seem to like it.

Leaders of both the Government and the Opposition enjoy telling the foreign visitor that the Gulf conflict shows how wrong is the Western idea that the main cause for the instability of the Middle East must be found in the Arab-Israeli question.

This region is instead a hotbed of many different tensions and conflicts. It is unrealistic and false to believe that "just by forcing Israel to recognize the PLO and accept a Palestinian state" one would bring full stability to the Middle East. Western oil supplies are threatened by many other dangers.

Some Israelis probably hope that, as a result of Western preoccupation with other Middle Eastern crises, there will be fewer pressures upon Israel to make concessions about the Palestinians.

Mr. Begin, the Prime Minister, also feels that the strategic importance of Israel to the United States has been made clearer. American rejections of his remarks about Israel's readiness to support possible United States military initiatives in the Gulf will not shake his belief that the present conflict has raised Israel's value in the eyes of its main ally.

The present crisis also provides clear evidence about the extraordinary importance of peace between Israel and Egypt. It is impossible to disagree with Mr. Begin when he tells you that this was indeed a "revolutionary achievement" for the whole of the Middle East.

There is no disagreement about all that between the leaders of the Labour Opposition and the Prime Minister. Both sides also share more mixed feelings about the possible outcomes of the Gulf war.

Mr. Begin points out: "One knows when and how a war starts, not how it may spread." An indecisive result of the fighting, leaving both sides weaker, could be in the short term, satisfactory for Israel. But there are too many unknown factors in this complex equation.

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OVERSEAS

Polish union leaders put conditions for dropping strike threat

Warsaw, Oct 1.—Leaders of Poland's independent unions debated tonight whether to bow to a Government appeal to call off their threatened strike action.

Protracted talks between Mr Mieczyslaw Jagielski, the Deputy Prime Minister, and representatives of the Solidarity group, the main independent union, headed by Mr Lech Walesa, ended without a commitment by the workers to cancel the strike call.

Instead, the union leaders in Gdansk summoned a meeting of the main board of Solidarity to discuss proposals made by Mr Jagielski and decide whether or not to go ahead with the strikes. Solidarity demanded the Government's acceptance of three conditions as its price for calling off the one-hour stoppage on the eve of a crucial meeting of the Communist Party's Central Committee.

The conditions were: a clear commitment by the Government to pay the promised wage increases; publication in the official media of unbiased reports on the situation in the unions; and an order to local authorities to keep agreements made by the national Government and stop obstructing the formation of new unions.

The unions are also demanding to call a general strike on October 20, unless their demands are met by then. Mr Jagielski travelled to Gdansk after a television broadcast last night by Mr Kazimierz Barcikowski, another Deputy Prime Minister, who appealed for the strikes to be called off and accused the unions of jeopardizing the economy.

Mr Walesa said in a statement: "Our union treats with seriousness the domestic economic situation and we often have stated that the union wants to get out of the crisis. But the condition for this is full implementation of the agreement that we have reached."

Mr Walesa accused Mr Barcikowski of attempting to launch a campaign of disinformation against the new unions. "There have been attempts to conduct negotiations with the old unions, by-passing the new ones, that are the real representatives of the workers," he said.

The Communist Party's 143-man Central Committee will meet on Saturday to discuss possible changes in the leadership and new political and economic directions.

In Warsaw, the district court granted legal identity for the first time to an independent union by officially registering the organization, representing pilots, hostesses, and ground staff of the state airline.

A court spokesman said that 20 labour organizations had applied for registration, including the solidarity movement representing thousands of planes throughout the country. UPI.

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Mr Mugabe tells Army to round up rebels

From Frederick Cherry Salisbury, Oct 1

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, has ordered the Army and police to take action against dissidents who have created the recent wave of violence in the country. "These evil elements must be rounded up and removed with speed," he said tonight.

Speaking in a special radio and television broadcast, Mr Mugabe said his forces had been deployed to restore law and order by rounding up the dissidents and taking possession of all illegal weapons.

While the majority of the population in the country had heeded his appeal for a national spirit of peace and reconciliation, some dissident elements and misguided party militants had acted in complete defiance of his call, he said.

There had been senseless killings of civilians and other acts of violence, he said. A number of areas of the country, especially in and around Salisbury, Shona and Bulawayo.

"I have accordingly now ordered the deployment of units of our integrated national Army to continue to bring law and order to all the affected areas," he said. If need be more forces would be deployed in other areas.

He said the Government was making "clear and unequivocal" its position on the rights and responsibilities of all citizens. "Leaders and dissident groups such as those responsible for recent attacks at public places, He said, leaders who have deliberately and recklessly courted the wrath of the law themselves."

Mr Mugabe's speech was the strongest he has yet made and it will be welcomed by a nation which has been increasingly concerned about the recent violence. He has been under great pressure to make the move, even if it is against elements of the guerrilla forces who helped him.

Rebelling guerrillas: Brandishing rifles, tanks and other weapons, about 100 Mr Mugabe's Zulu guerrillas came in from the bush today to settle in the township of Chitungwiza, 12 miles south of Salisbury.

Thousands of guerrillas who fought in the war are to be housed in a new township. Their arrival has aroused fears of an upsurge in factional violence. But as the column of 58 lorries arrived, about 3,000 Africans turned out to give a warm, enthusiastic welcome to the guerrillas.

When the guerrillas arrived, they were met by a large number of British advisers. The British adviser, Brigadier Patrick Palmer, was promoted to the rank of major-general last night. The move has reinforced speculation that Mr Mugabe does not for the time being intend to fill the gap created by the resignation in July of Lieutenant-General Peter Wallis as commander of the Zimbabwe Joint High Command (Nicholas Ashford writes from Johannesburg).

At the time of General Wallis's resignation, there were reports that Mr Mugabe might have been replaced by a Commonwealth country as it was virtually impossible to find a black or white Zimbabwean who would be acceptable to the three rival forces represented on the High Command.

Britain opposes sanctions against S Africa

From Our Own Correspondent Johannesburg, Oct 1

Britain will not consider the use of sanctions against South Africa so long as the present negotiations in London, the United States and the United Nations, are still proceeding.

This was made clear today by Mr Richard Luce, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Foreign Office, who is making a tour of six Southern African states.

During a meeting with British correspondents Mr Luce said that there was a "strong possibility" for a settlement in the disputed territory. He stressed that the United Nations must be due to visit South Africa later this month in an attempt to get the stalled talks on Namibia started.

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Wounded Iraqis tell of jet strikes

Continued from page 1

—supposedly safe and long secure in Iraq, heads were hurled to death yesterday when shells rained down on his convoy.

Not one important Iranian city has fallen to Baghdad and with the exception of the town of Qasr-e-Shirin to the north, all that the Iraqis have captured in 10 days of war is 1,100 square miles of brown, waterless desert, a shabby landscape of rock and sand from which the Iraqis very sensibly withdrew to fight on from the hills.

The casualties from Salama are the physical token of the Iranian punishment and the strictly guarded military hospital in Basra contains all the evidence one needs to appreciate the extraordinary strength of Iranian opposition to the Iraqi Army.

The Iraqis have never before allowed Western journalists to interview military casualties, but the authorities in Basra today took the unprecedented step of permitting The Times and a BBC television crew to walk through the wards and freely interview wounded soldiers. Our request to see and speak to the injured troops was conceded within two minutes and no attempt was made by the Iraqis to use the occasion for propaganda purposes. All the casualties told the same disturbing stories, of surprise attacks by Iranian helicopter gunships and of Phantom jets suddenly swooping upon them from the east.

A badly burnt tank crew member described how he heard the sound of jet engines only a second before a rocket hit his tank, covering a quarter of his body in blazing petrol.

A private in the Iraqi Army's transport command was blown from his jeep south of Ahvaz by a rocket fired from an Iranian helicopter and, as he lay in the sand, a Phantom appeared out of the sun and bombed his colleagues.

A 25-year-old infantryman was wounded three times by Iranian snipers.

Major Jamal, the senior anaesthetist at the military hospital, pointed out that there were still empty beds in the wards and that most of the casualties were only lightly wounded. But the wounds of some of the tank crews are better left undescribed and the Iraqi Army is paying a high price for the face of its President, whose photograph with optimistic face and waving hand greets visitors to the Basra military hospital.

Kurds claim attacks

Kurdish guerrillas opposed to the Iraqi Government have launched an offensive against Iraqi positions in northern Iraq, a spokesman for the Kurdistan Democratic Party told Reuters in London yesterday.

The spokesman said that the Pesh Merga guerrillas had struck on September 23, the day after war broke out between Iraq and Iran, which also has a large Kurdish minority.

The Iraqi Embassy in London later issued a statement saying that northern Iraq was quiet and that "the so-called subversive activities reported in some quarters are no more than isolated individual acts."

The embassy said the reports of the Kurdish offensive were propagated by Iranian sources. It added that the Kurds of Iraq had recently held their first democratic election to establish their national rights within a framework of autonomy at a time when Iranian Kurds were being massacred.

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Twisted and burnt oil pipelines at the Gulf port of Abadan after a recent Iraqi air raid.

General Zia accuses US of hostile line on Arabs

New York, Oct 1.—President Zia-ul-Haq of Pakistan condemned the United States today for a policy of "hostile confrontation" with the Arab world and claimed that Washington bore "a heavy responsibility" for Israel's aggressiveness.

He told the United Nations General Assembly that failure to resolve the Palestinian problem had created a crisis that could explode at any moment into "a disaster the magnitude of which has not been seen before."

He noted that the United States claimed vital economic and strategic interests in the Middle East and North Africa. "Yet it pursues a policy which brings into hostile con-

frontation with the Arab world, and it opens up-ended support to Israel which encourages that country to pursue aggressive policies in defiance of world opinion," General Zia said.

"The United States bears a heavy responsibility in this respect," UPI.

London talks: The implications of the Gulf conflict were the main topic discussed by Mr Huang Hua, the Chinese Deputy Prime Minister, and Foreign Minister Lord Carlington, the Foreign Secretary, in talks at the Foreign Office yesterday. A senior Iranian diplomat is due in London today to report on the crisis. (Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes).

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London talks: The implications of the Gulf conflict were the main topic discussed by Mr Huang Hua, the Chinese Deputy Prime Minister, and Foreign Minister Lord Carlington, the Foreign Secretary, in talks at the Foreign Office yesterday. A senior Iranian diplomat is due in London today to report on the crisis. (Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes).

He told the United Nations General Assembly that failure to resolve the Palestinian problem had created a crisis that could explode at any moment into "a disaster the magnitude of which has not been seen before."

He noted that the United States claimed vital economic and strategic interests in the Middle East and North Africa. "Yet it pursues a policy which brings into hostile con-

Puzzle over arms spares leads to rumour and denial

By Henry Stanhope Defence Correspondent

As the pace of the Gulf war slackened yesterday the confusion and ammunition unit, as assiduously under the Shah.

Much of the more sophisticated American equipment acquired by Iran would by now need extra supplies and maintenance. Then a lot of this equipment has not been seen on the battlefield.

Sources confirmed that Tehran has contacted middlemen in the arms market and has had a positive response. But the supplies have not been significant.

What has perhaps disappointed the Iraqis most has been their failure to capture the confidence of Iranian expatriates and minorities disenchanted with the Khomeini regime.

This failure may in turn be ascribed less to the deficiencies of the Iraqis than to the division of Iraq's limited forces on a four-pronged approach.

The new policy of military moving armour across the Shatt al-Arab waterway.

It is also rumoured that the Americans are keeping the Iraqis supplied, under a deal linked to the return of the 52 hostages.

This was denied in Washington, and discounted elsewhere. The general opinion in official

circles is that the Iranian war effort has been sustained by the ample stocks of arms, equipment and ammunition unit, as assiduously under the Shah.

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What has perhaps disappointed the Iraqis most has been their failure to capture

La creme also on page 8

THE TIMES THURSDAY OCTOBER 2 1980

Photograph by Donald Coone

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There was copious vitality, a relish for picture-making, though, not such as it was with the *sonata*. That followed, the *sonata*—*Sonata*, that green seemed more than with her Scandinavian neighbour. The slow movement had a dance of dignified, that utterly serene journeying, that one more readily with the final piano works, the final went with an accumulation of remaining more strange indicated right to its end. No doubt the

though challenged it would appear, by a rebuild her career as a first-class motor accident lawyer. A splashy player, she has many wrong notes in her performance of the Chopin Etudes to be ineffective, but this was the kind of music she's best in. In a Chopin Etude, the B flat major, she was quite mis- taken. She drew out the first turn of phrase in the movement but tended to wallow with unsteady, nervousness.

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played out in a scene designed by and Francis.

Mr Duke's chief assistant, Joeves, feels that in the second set becomes more forming itself from room to a marriage sense of humor he applies to his there was a risk that limit Mr Duke's

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1. *Chlorophyll a* and *Chlorophyll b* contents were determined by spectrophotometry using the method of Lichtenthaler and Whistler (1974).

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1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific information required.

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A positive push to help television women find their niche

A pioneering project, the first of its kind in this country, has begun at Thames Television to improve the position of women at work by positive discrimination. It is being carried out by the National Council for Civil Liberties, which the company's cooperation, as part of a wider programme to make use of parts of the Sex Discrimination Act and to do something about the widening pay gap between men and women.

The research will look at the feasibility of carrying out such an exercise in the area of racial as well as sex discrimination: it will involve finding out what jobs women and blacks do, drawing up a programme of action within a company or organization to improve training opportunities and to set a target for the number of women in certain jobs by a particular date, and monitoring whether or not that is carried out.

Thames Television is the only organization to have agreed to take part in the positive discrimination programme to date. This part of the research is being funded by the Equal Opportunities Commission. Other elements of the project are being funded by the Commission for Racial Equality.

Ms. Sadie Roberts, a barrister and the NCCL's consultant on the Thames project, said women employees were very interested in the idea. As a result, the way of life monthly newsletters to discover their grievances: whether they were more interested, for example, in better technical training or in more child care.

Women were entirely excluded from certain jobs in television, she said. At Thames there were no female camera operators and no women in the sound or lighting departments. That was the "institutionalized" discrimination. The fact that they had perhaps studied particular subjects at school, and did not have the necessary qualifications.

"What one has got to do, given a commitment to equality of opportunity by a company, is to introduce training schemes to overcome this," said Ms. Roberts. A little town section of the Sex Discrimination Act of 1975 does in fact enable employers to give women in a particular job to take a direct action to encourage women.

This can include sending lecturers to schools to encourage girls to do subjects they might not normally study. Improving child care arrangements and providing specific training schemes.

The NCCL's project comes at a time of increasing interest throughout the world in positive discrimination policies. The United States has accepted the concept for some time, and American courts have been active in forcing companies, such as Greyhound Bus, and the Bank of America, to encourage the recruitment and promotion of women. Policies have been drawn up and enforced and companies persuaded to set goals of, say, how many women would be in certain kinds of jobs by a particular time. The EEOC has now decided to draft a directive on positive discrimination.

All this has found foreign and, probably, analogous to the British case, and the NCCL researchers are anxious to talk in terms of targets rather than quotas, which are anyway outlawed under the Sex Discrimination Act. They are looking around for another three to five companies or organizations willing to take part in developing a positive discrimination policy.

So far the difficulties have been mainly in persuading managements to co-operate, at a time of financial stringency, when economic rather than political or social considerations are paramount. Mrs. Ann Sedley, the NCCL's women's rights officer, and Ms. Elizabeth Ball, who is running this particular project, would like to work with a hospital and a factory.

The group had a particular lever with Thames: the company had signed Camden Council's equal opportunities policy and with the franchise for the fourth television channel soon up for grabs, was presumably concerned about its image.

An NCCL pamphlet on positive discrimination will be published later this year and an international conference will be held on the subject next April. This conference is being financed by the Ford Foundation and the German Marshall Fund and will be addressed by speakers from all over the world.

Researchers are convinced that positive discrimination programmes are the only way that women can progress from badly paid menial jobs to jobs of status from which they have been entirely barred in the past.

Lucy Hodges

The Times Cook



Shona Crawford Poole

Not animal or vegetable, but edible

long as someone else has fiddled over them. Recipes in which mushrooms predominate tend to be simple. The ingredients which enhance them, worked over long ago, are hard to improve on and apparent innovations can often be traced to other cuisines. Mushrooms cooked gently in butter are an easily prepared, superfluous if it were not from the hand of Eliza Acton whose *Modern Cookery for Private Families* was first published in 1845.

"Mushrooms are a *bonne bouche* (Delicious). Cut the stems from some fine meadow mushrooms, wash them, and clean them with a bit of new flannel, and some fine salt; then either wipe them dry with a soft cloth, or rinse them in fresh water, drain them quickly, spread them in a clean cloth, fold it over them, and leave them for ten minutes, or more, to dry. For every pint of them thus prepared, put an ounce and a half of fresh butter into a thick iron saucepan, shake it over the fire until it just begins to brown, throw in the mushrooms, continue to shake the saucepan over a clear fire that they may not stick in it or burn, and when they have simmered three or four minutes, remove them a little salt, some cayenne, and pounded mace: stew them until they are perfectly tender, heap them in a dish, and serve them with their own sauce only, for breakfast, supper, or luncheon.

"Nothing can be finer than the flavour of the mushrooms thus prepared: and the addition of any liquid is far from an improvement to it.

"They are very good when drained from the butter, and served cold; and in a cool larder may be kept for several days. The butter in which they have stewed is admirable for flavouring gravies, sauces, or served meats. Small flaps, freed from the fur and skin, may be stewed in the same way, and either these, or the buttons, served under roast poultry or partridges, will give a dish of very superior relish.

In one of her inimitable foreshadowing observations, Miss Acton continues: "Persons inhabiting parts of the country where mushrooms are abundant, may send them easily, when thus prepared, to their friends in cities, or in less productive countries. If poured into jars, with sufficient butter to cover them, they will travel, and dis-

appear, and can be re-warmed for use."

Anyone who has not tasted a good, home-made mushroom soup should do so, without delay. The following recipe is especially good, when made with open mushrooms, and serves game stock. When making it with button mushrooms and light stock, a tablespoon of cornflour, thickening seems appropriate—but it is entirely a matter of taste.

Cremini mushroom soup
Serves four
30g (1oz) butter
1 large onion, finely chopped
450g (1lb) mushrooms, preferably open field mushrooms, but any will do, sliced
1 litre (1 1/2 pints) stock, game, duck, or chicken
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
1 tablespoon soy sauce
150ml (1 pint) double cream

Melt the butter in a heavy pot and fry the onion until it is soft, but not browned. Add the sliced mushrooms, cover it or burn, and when they have simmered three or four minutes, remove them a little salt, some cayenne, and pounded mace: stew them until they are perfectly tender, heap them in a dish, and serve them with their own sauce only, for breakfast, supper, or luncheon.

Puree the mixture by passing it through a sieve or processing it briefly in a blender or food processor. Return the soup to the pan and stir in the cream. Check the seasoning and rehearse to just below boiling point. Serve immediately.

Mushrooms with small butter
Serves four
4 very large open mushrooms or 8 smaller ones
110g (4oz) softened butter
2 cloves garlic, peeled and chopped
At least 4 tablespoons chopped parsley
Juice of half a lemon
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Peel the mushrooms and cut off the stalks flush with the caps. Scrape the peeled surface with a little butter and arrange the mushrooms, butter side up, in a grill pan.

Combine the remaining butter with the garlic, parsley, lemon juice, salt, and pepper and reduce the mixture in a smooth paste with a pestle and mortar or food processor.

Grill the mushrooms on a medium heat. When the tops are cooked turn them over and spread the garlic butter over the grilled surface. Grill until cooked through, when the grill pan nearer the heat to finish them.

Serve the mushrooms just as they are, or with a sprig of parsley in the centre of each one, and fresh crusty bread.

Mushrooms, cooked with cream or sour cream, flavoured sometimes with herbs (dill is a favourite) may be served on toast or fried bread as a snack, or savoury, or, on their own, as a vegetable. The full flavour of coriander seeds, used in the next recipe, is released only when the seeds are heated.

Mushrooms with coriander
Serves four
225g (8oz) button mushrooms
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
3 tablespoons olive oil
1 rounded teaspoon of coriander seeds, crushed
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Wipe the mushrooms, trim the stalks, and quarter or slice them thickly. Sprinkle them with half the lemon juice.

Heat 2 tablespoons of the oil in a heavy frying pan and add the crushed coriander. Almost immediately add the mushrooms, bay leaves, salt, and pepper. Shake the pan on a low heat, then cover and cook the mushrooms until tender, without allowing them to brown.

Tip the mushrooms, bay leaves, and all the juices into a shallow serving dish. Drizzle over them the remaining oil and lemon juice. Serve hot or cold as a first course, or with plainly grilled poultry, lamb or pork.

In *Kitchen Essays* reprinted from *The Times* in 1922, Lady Jekyll wrote: "Some people abstain from sweets at certain seasons, on grounds of religion or health, but seek compensation for their self-denial in salty savouries: others never eat sweets because they dislike them; and by many a dinner which does not include both sweet and savoury is thought, even in these days of shortened meals, to be a little disappointing."

Mushrooms, she says, are useful for savouries, but great care must be exercised in their selection, and any stale or doubtful ones rejected. American cuisine has invented special Pyrex glass saucers with bell glasses fitting over them, in which mushrooms are cooked very simply in salt, pepper, cream and butter, so as to retain their juices and sugar's flavour; but this might be thought too profuse a savoury for the end of a varied dinner, when these little *Croûtes de Champignons* would be considered daintier.

"Make a purée by frying about 1lb mushrooms, or steaming them in some butter. When cooked, pass through a wire sieve, mix with a little stiff bechamel sauce, salt, and pepper, heap this on some fried or toasted croutons of bread, and on the top of each little mound place a small, whole, grilled mushroom and serve very hot."

Renault.



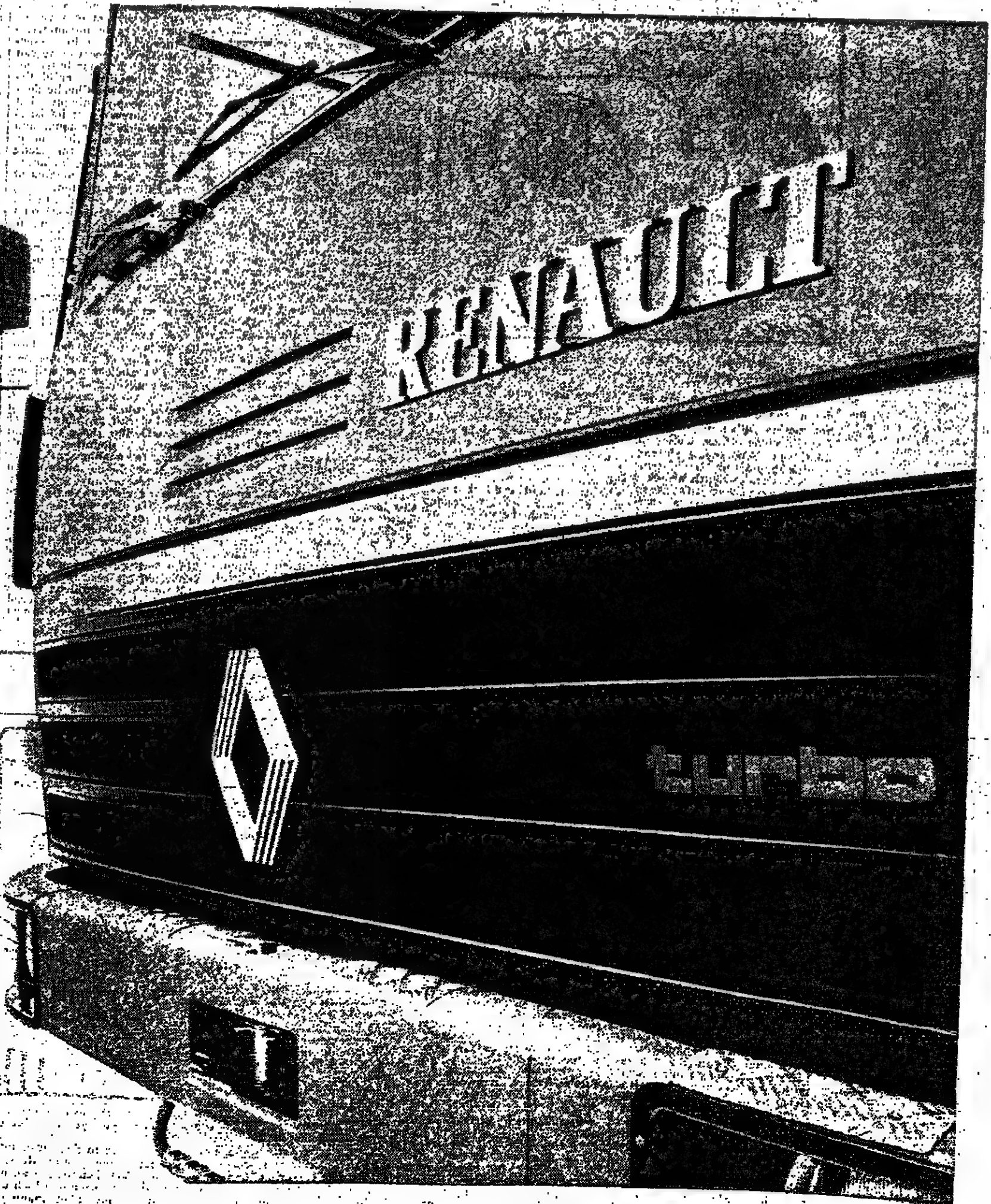
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LABOUR IN TRAVAIL

The Labour Conference has so far provided two of the most disastrous days that the party has ever experienced. At a time when the Government is running into considerable difficulties, when the principal Opposition party has every opportunity to be riding high, Labour has presented a spectacle of irresponsibility and anarchy. It has exposed policies which are ill-considered and unrealistic. It has elected a national executive committee with even more of a left-wing majority than the previous one. It has passed a constitutional amendment that will weaken the independence of Labour MPs. And it has produced a shambles over the method of electing the party leader.

This last is of particular importance because so many of the hopes for restoring sense and order to the party depend on the influence of a new leader who can bring to the task more vigour and a greater readiness to combat than Mr. Callaghan. As displayed over the past year, Mr. Callaghan has seemed this week to be drawing to the conclusion of a career of mixed fortune, in the course of which he served with considerable success for two-and-a-half out of his three years as Prime Minister. His speech on Tuesday was appropriate as a farewell to his followers. But it did not bear the mark of a man with the zest and the drive towards change and dynamism in the party. The one who has come for him to hand over it has been generally assumed at Blackpool this week to be his intention, and may still be. But he is bound to be subjected to considerable pressure to stay until the conference over the method of electing the leader has been sorted out.

The conference did not change existing method yesterday, voted in favour of a change, but being able to agree what change should be. For the

moment, therefore, the present arrangement whereby the leader is elected by Labour MPs still stands. But the conference has undermined the legitimacy of this procedure, and weakened in advance the authority of any new leader elected under it.

In these circumstances a powerful case can be made for Mr. Callaghan remaining until the party has an accepted procedure for electing a successor. If this is not agreed today, it might mean waiting another year before a new leader could be elected. It is bound to be the case, therefore, that the task of pulling Labour back to a position where it is a credible alternative government will be delayed by the disadvantages of electing a new leader under present conditions. It would still be better if Mr. Callaghan were to be succeeded by Mr. Healey at the beginning of the next Parliamentary session in November.

One of the principal tasks of a new leader must be to rescue Labour from a policy on Europe that is dangerous both for the country and the party. The conference voted yesterday for a right withdrawal from the European Community. The objections to such a course on grounds of the national interest are familiar enough. But it may seem strange at a time when membership of the EEC is not popular in Britain to assert that the party will also suffer if it persists in this policy.

The reason is that it would in all probability provoke a split at the next election, if not before. The "gang of three"—Mrs. Shirley Williams, Mr. William Rodgers and Mr. David Owen—are well aware of the danger of breaking away from Labour on such an electorally unwinning issue. They would therefore justify such a move on wider grounds, which they would be unlikely to have much difficulty in finding. But it is hard to believe that Mrs. Williams in particular, after all she has said

over the past few days, could retain the respect of the public and herself if she were to follow the next election on behalf of a party committed to withdrawal from the Community.

It is ironic that Labour's programme should now be looking to another referendum as a possible compromise, and that this should be rejected by anti-marketisers who were so keen on the idea in 1974-75. Another possibility would be simply to hope that whoever leads the party at the next election would have the good sense and the authority to prevent a commitment to withdrawal being included in the manifesto. Although yesterday's resolution was passed by the two-thirds majority necessary for it to become official party policy, it does not have to be included. It might also be argued that the decision of the conference yesterday not to put responsibility for the manifesto solely in the hands of the National Executive Committee would make it easier to omit such a European commitment. But while yesterday's manifesto decision was one of the few redeeming features of the conference to date, it would be unwise to put any confidence in such a strategy.

It is unrealistic to expect that any leader in opposition will have the personal authority to disregard such a clear expression of the party's will on a matter of the first importance—unless it is reversed at another conference before the election. If Labour is to be saved as a party worthy of national respect the battle will have to be fought within the movement well in advance of the election on the European issue, not only on Europe, but also defence (here will be some critical votes on that issue) and other issues. It is not just trusting that all would be well once Labour were back with the responsibility of office.

Reporting of Iraq-Iran war

From Mr. Alireza Amini and others
Sir, As Iraqis concerned about the future of our country, we are amazed that an act which by any standards is an aggression, passed in the House of Commons, and indeed all Western media, and the press of the United Kingdom. It requires no sympathy for the government in Tehran to recognize that an attack by one state on another, however objectionable its government, is a flagrant violation of international law and any code of civilized conduct between nations. The indecent emphasis in British, and indeed all Western, media on the flow of oil, regional stability and security obscures the fundamental reality that one state has attacked another, and that it has used a century later, cannot be or become excessive. By permitting the passage of the first Lord Stansgate to be extinguished the Commons may well eventually prove to have conspired at their own corruption. In any case it is surely an act of breathtaking political arrogance for one of England's constituent elements to propose unilaterally to sterilize another. What was morally wrong in 1949 is morally wrong now.

It has long been common knowledge that debates in the House of Lords attain in general a greater distinction than the House of Commons is in general capable of supplying and that in the Lords the cross-benchers lack a parliamentary parallel. Further, since hereditary peers' face no hustings and have no votes, they make no promises of unreliable electoral value and can therefore form a bulwark protecting the ordinary citizen.

This is not to say that the House of Lords needs no reform; that is another matter. What I seek to stress is that we have now been warned. The time may yet come when, perhaps too late, the ordinary citizen will cry: "The power of the Commons has increased, it is increasing and ought to be diminished" and be quite unable to do anything about it.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
EDMUND ESDAILE,
35 St. James's Park,
London, SW1A 1NE.
September 30.

From Mr. H. G. Pitt
Sir, In his excitement Mr. Wedgwood Benn may have forgotten that it is the Crown, not governments, which creates peers. If he will pause to recall the history he learned at the university he now likes to forget, he will find that monarchs do not bend easily on high constitutional matters; and he might ponder the likelihood that many of her Majesty's subjects would not be willing to see her hulled.

Yours sincerely,
H. G. PITT,
Worcester College,
Oxford.
September 30.

Aircraft to 'kill' tanks

From Mr. Warwick Collins
Sir, I should like to correct what seems to be an important error in the interesting letter from Squadron Leader Hindley (September 20) on the proposal to develop small aircraft to kill tanks.

The belief that small propeller-driven aircraft of the type mentioned in Lord Glidwyn's letter (September 18) cannot carry sufficient weaponry to destroy modern tanks is easily shown to be factually incorrect.

A military load for such an aircraft (with say, a 1,000 hp turbine engine) would be a 2,000lb. This was the warload which a Mustang was able to carry in World War II, and became essential to its improved success. It is also generally known that an infantryman can carry and launch a potent anti-armour guided missile (as the Israeli tank crews found to their cost when faced with the Soviet Sagger in the 1973 Yom Kippur war), guided missile weight in this case does not need to exceed 30lb. To assess the tank-killing capacity of the type of aircraft mentioned above, it only remains to ask how many times 30lb can be divided into a 2,000lb warload.

As an alternative to guided weapons, up to 100 optically-sighted anti-tank rockets could be carried on a single mission. Tests with Suro rockets, among others, show how effective is the combination of such weapons with the light aircraft platform.

Squadron Leader Hindley raises the crucial question of sophistication in modern battlefield conditions. The necessity for rigorous study in this area cannot be overestimated. For example, present planners do not yet seem to

depend on private schools. Labour Party policy runs counter to the urgent need to increase the number of alternative schools, to offer a pluralist society opportunities to educate children according to parental beliefs.

Yours sincerely,
BRIAN COX,
30 Park Gates Drive,
Chesham, Bucks.
September 30.

A load of rubbish

From Mr. Andrew Constable
Sir, The stark reality of the phrase used by Mr. Anthony Cordew's local council, "Household Waste Amenity Centres" (September 27), took me aback. Here at Chigwell we have a "Civic Amenity Point!"

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW CONSTABLE,
Chigwell School,
Chigwell,
Essex.
September 29.

Upsetting the constitutional appletart

From Mr. Edmund Esdaile
Sir, England constitutionally is and has always been tripartite, consisting of Sovereign, Lords and Commons. A mixed Constitution in which the elements are harmoniously blended and balanced is of all constitutions the healthiest and most stable; but if any of these elements becomes either excessive or deficient the health of the whole must suffer. In our history the Whigs, a century later, cannot be or become excessive. By permitting the peerage of the first Lord Stansgate to be extinguished the Commons may well eventually prove to have conspired at their own corruption. In any case it is surely an act of breathtaking political arrogance for one of England's constituent elements to propose unilaterally to sterilize another. What was morally wrong in 1949 is morally wrong now.

It has long been common knowledge that debates in the House of Lords attain in general a greater distinction than the House of Commons is in general capable of supplying and that in the Lords the cross-benchers lack a parliamentary parallel. Further, since hereditary peers' face no hustings and have no votes, they make no promises of unreliable electoral value and can therefore form a bulwark protecting the ordinary citizen.

This is not to say that the House of Lords needs no reform; that is another matter. What I seek to stress is that we have now been warned. The time may yet come when, perhaps too late, the ordinary citizen will cry: "The power of the Commons has increased, it is increasing and ought to be diminished" and be quite unable to do anything about it.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
EDMUND ESDAILE,
35 St. James's Park,
London, SW1A 1NE.
September 30.

From Mr. H. G. Pitt
Sir, In his excitement Mr. Wedgwood Benn may have forgotten that it is the Crown, not governments, which creates peers. If he will pause to recall the history he learned at the university he now likes to forget, he will find that monarchs do not bend easily on high constitutional matters; and he might ponder the likelihood that many of her Majesty's subjects would not be willing to see her hulled.

Yours sincerely,
H. G. PITT,
Worcester College,
Oxford.
September 30.

Aircraft to 'kill' tanks

From Mr. Warwick Collins
Sir, I should like to correct what seems to be an important error in the interesting letter from Squadron Leader Hindley (September 20) on the proposal to develop small aircraft to kill tanks.

The belief that small propeller-driven aircraft of the type mentioned in Lord Glidwyn's letter (September 18) cannot carry sufficient weaponry to destroy modern tanks is easily shown to be factually incorrect.

A military load for such an aircraft (with say, a 1,000 hp turbine engine) would be a 2,000lb. This was the warload which a Mustang was able to carry in World War II, and became essential to its improved success. It is also generally known that an infantryman can carry and launch a potent anti-armour guided missile (as the Israeli tank crews found to their cost when faced with the Soviet Sagger in the 1973 Yom Kippur war), guided missile weight in this case does not need to exceed 30lb. To assess the tank-killing capacity of the type of aircraft mentioned above, it only remains to ask how many times 30lb can be divided into a 2,000lb warload.

As an alternative to guided weapons, up to 100 optically-sighted anti-tank rockets could be carried on a single mission. Tests with Suro rockets, among others, show how effective is the combination of such weapons with the light aircraft platform.

Squadron Leader Hindley raises the crucial question of sophistication in modern battlefield conditions. The necessity for rigorous study in this area cannot be overestimated. For example, present planners do not yet seem to

depend on private schools. Labour Party policy runs counter to the urgent need to increase the number of alternative schools, to offer a pluralist society opportunities to educate children according to parental beliefs.

Yours sincerely,
BRIAN COX,
30 Park Gates Drive,
Chesham, Bucks.
September 30.

A load of rubbish

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Sir, The stark reality of the phrase used by Mr. Anthony Cordew's local council, "Household Waste Amenity Centres" (September 27), took me aback. Here at Chigwell we have a "Civic Amenity Point!"

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW CONSTABLE,
Chigwell School,
Chigwell,
Essex.
September 29.

Kidnapping in Sardinia

From Mr. Roly Schild
Sir, I would refer to John Carter's article published on September 20. From the context of the article, one must assume that he claims it is only the rich outsiders who have caused the kind of tourism which leads to kidnapping. There is nothing new about this form of banditry. It has been practised in Sardinia for a great many years. At one time it was sheep, and now it has progressed to kidnapping people, which is more profitable. To quote one bandit, "They do not make so much noise."

Tourism is encouraged in Sardinia, and had it not been for the developers (not always successful) and the "rich outsiders," the "ordinary" holiday-maker would probably never have had the chance to enjoy the beauty of the island, nor would the essential services exist.

Far from being exploited, the local population now enjoys a higher standard of living, and has much better prospects than ever before with the influx of tourists. Carter's "different league" analogy shows ignorance of the true facts. I would have thought that a fictitious value of the private property is published in an open article by those who were or are responsible for its publication should also be prepared to underwrite their statements.

The chances of being kidnapped are less than being in an aeroplane crash; and in the same way that one does not prevent people from flying, it should not prevent anyone from spending his vacation in Sardinia. However, it would be a fallacy to assume, as Carter claims, that only the very rich are potential victims. On the contrary, it is the not-so-rich who may become victims, as they least expect it. The Sardinian native is as likely to be kidnapped or murdered as any foreigner.

We have many friends of all leagues in Sardinia who feel no resentment; there are also habitual criminals, as they say, who are not. It would seem that Carter attempts to justify their action of one of the most barbaric of all crimes. Yours faithfully,
ROLF SCHILD,
5 Byron Drive, N2,
September 30.

Convenience food

From Mr. W. S. Bolitho
Sir, As the son of a Cornish miner I was interested in Mrs. de Gannesford's letter (September 27). My father's fingers were too large to hold his pasty by the ridge. He held it with one hand and he ate the lot. It was not only my mother's cooking that was involved; there was also her pride.

I would mention one aspect of the recipe my non-Cornish friend has pointed out which she learned from my mother. When filling the flattened-out pastry, potatoes and turnips were put on first, followed by the meat, before the pastry was put on. This was done to ensure that, in cooking, the juices from the meat did not leak out but were absorbed by the vegetables.

I have never encountered the variation of a different content at either end but I still have three left. The best used was always of the highest quality that could be afforded. In the essential accompanying cup of tea, sugar was not only permitted but encouraged—to aid the digestion. If I had been very good, I was allowed to fold the ridge. Yours faithfully,
W. S. BOLITHO,
Wards Garth,
Lander Road,
Laver, Leicestershire,
Essex.

Aware of the bull

From Mr. R. P. Welch
Sir, I seem to remember that one of the present Government's election promises was to introduce legislation. Why on earth then are we being pestered with the proposal to change the rules about bulls in fields? Every bull seems perfectly well ordered as it is.

I have led countless walks with groups of children along miles and miles of footpaths. Very often the children suppose that bulldozers are bulls and passing them close by evokes enormous excitement to see generally the result of negotiating barbed wire when there should be a case or a fence.

Only once have we met a bull, accompanied by about 40 heifers. All seemed peaceful. He was grazing and to were the heifers. We needed warily into the field but before we had been 30 yards the charge began. All the heifers were charging at us. We didn't stop to find out whether they were mere inquisitive but beat a hasty retreat, reaching safety with just yards to spare. The only non-participant in this event was a bull, who didn't even glance our way.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD WELCH,
Enochstones Cottage,
Sydenham,
Oxford.

Tale of a shirt

From Miss Oliver Hewitt
Sir, In King George III's reign it was still customary for the Sovereign's left-off shirts and underclothes to be distributed among certain poor members of his household, who had no cause for dissatisfaction with the length of the shirts.

The versatile scintillating William Combe tells us: "I have been present when a slave of St. James' immodest exposure of the tail of his shirt, to show an astonished workman upon it." Yours faithfully,
OLIVER HEWITT,
15 Denny Crescent, SE11,
September 29.

IN FLEET STREET SAVE ITSELF?

The tombstones of Fleet Street write one word: "No." Those were the coming words of the leading le we published on Saturday June 28, which gave precise ing of the inevitability of Fleet Street's closure, unless was a radical change in the ionship between trade and managements, a new among trade unions and a unity between publishers. Happen, the Evening News seen the first newspaper to ictim to the decline of Fleet t. That leaves seventeen of which at least nine are nly operating at a loss.

It says that London cannot t two evening newspapers, true that the circulation of Evening News has fallen y over a number of years ere had recently been an vement in its editorial y and it had its own e, larger than that of successful provincial news- The problem was partly the recession in advertis- Associated Newspapers, y experienced publishers ay have seen their news- through not one, but per- a score of advertising ons in the past. The chief n of the Evening News, is rest of Fleet Street, was t's costs which were so- hat large losses had be-

come inevitable, there was no prospect of bringing the paper back into balance.

If the Evening News had been published on the same basis as evening newspapers in North America or in many European cities, or even on that of the more efficient provincial cities of England, with modern equipment and proper manning standards, it would not have incurred these costs. The unions had made concessions to try to save the paper, but costs were still too high. If the rest of Fleet Street were able to operate on modern standards of commercial efficiency, then none of the Fleet Street titles would be in serious danger and most would be in profit, even in a recession. When a tide dies it is natural that those who work in newspapers should feel both sad and angry. It would of course be hypocritical to say that all titles are of equal value. There are, nowadays, one or two mass circulation newspapers published which contribute little or nothing to the life of Britain; yet the Evening News was a respectable evening newspaper, if not an inspired one. It leaves London with, at least for the time being, no competition in the evening newspaper field.

It is, nevertheless, no use people being angry about an event which is the inevitable outcome of the failure of Fleet Street to reform itself. Three

Royal Commissions, the Economist Intelligence Unit Report, and countless informed articles and research papers, have argued that the present number of titles and jobs could not be maintained unless Fleet Street was prepared to modernize its equipment and raise its productivity. High productivity does of course mean an end to overmanning, but it tends to create additional employment by allowing newspapers to operate successfully on reasonable costs. All the papers that are still under threat in Fleet Street urgently need to raise their efficiency. The recession shows up their weaknesses but the crisis is in their costs.

It is tragic that the 1977 "Programme for Action" which was agreed by the TUC, by the print unions and by the publishers was turned down by votes on the shop floor. That programme, which would have allowed new equipment to be brought in, in an orderly way, could have saved the Evening News. It is still open—even after this tragic delay—for Fleet Street to reform itself. The death of the Evening News shows the inevitable consequence of failing to do so. The question that the unions are asking is whether Mr. Murdoch will start another evening newspaper. It would be very welcome if he did, but he would be crazy to do so on the present Fleet Street standards of manning and cost.

ITCHERISM ON TRIAL IN AUSTRALIA

on the findings of the polls the Government Labour Opposition are neck and neck in the an election campaign, political politicians plainly believe that the Labour in overturn the Liberal Party majority of forty n the 124-seat Lower (It will be 125 in the use.) There is more to think that the third Australian Democrats, n a balancing vote in the half of which is also 1 on October 18. But, n such a constitutional s ended the Whitlam ration, a Senate result ind hardly affects day-

ies because the result is so certainly a re-standate for Mr. Fraser, ighn has so far genera-ively little excitement, real issue is unemploy-ough this, of course, question the whole of s free market econ- y. He is vulnerable n 1975 he indulged too undertakings to reduce ment areas was rewar- his present record. Now he pleads the for world recession,

to which Labour returns with accusations of mismanagement, and makes what play it can with gloomy reports that thousands of families are falling below the poverty line (as drawn in a rich country) and a seventy per cent growth in actual destitution.

The credibility of Labour's challenge is blunted by defeatism. This is mainly a hangover from the failures of the Whitlam years, but derives also from the fact that in the post-war period the Australian voter has sometimes shown a basic conservatism that keeps the Liberal-CP coalition in power, federally, despite its many vicissitudes. That coalition has come to represent for Australians the success their country has shown itself to be, as an expanding nation and economy in the past forty years. And the success story continues despite recession and 340,000 unemployed, for foreign capital pours into the country as its immense natural resources, including energy, are progressively revealed.

Mr. Bill Hayden, the Labour leader, is promising to tax these eager foreigners and to keep a controlling equity in their operations, besides offering a lot more welfare spending, and expousing an even shorter working week.

For 9-day fortnights. Yet he has felt his personality is insufficient to impress the electorate without buttressing. A safe seat has been found for Mr. Bob Hawke, the former president of the Australian Council of Trade Unions and a personality of immense popularity in Australia. Yet behind him Mr. Hayden has lined up the charismatic figure of Mr. Brian Howe, South Wales Labour Premier, as chairman of the party, and Mr. Hawke's future in parliament seems assured. But his time is not quite come, and this cobbling-together of a Labour brand trust has an aura of self-distress.

The voters have broadly to choose between the Fraser view that "free enterprise" Australia sided the world recession far better than most, but that under Labour it would soon have the worst of it with twenty per cent inflation on top; and the Labour view that Mr. Fraser's monetarism has failed so that only Labour-generated and planned expansion can end unemployment and fulfil Australia's even richer economic promise. This echo of political election controversies in Britain, though in a richer environment, makes the Australian voter of more than academic interest here.

What they are the superior set in- tentially it would be beneficial for all concerned if we could have an accurate analysis made.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM DON,
14 Celina Close,
Blanchley, Buckinghamshire.
September 22.

Surviving ice houses

From Mr. Graham Binks
Sir, There is an ice house cut into the rock in the back of Ruskin's old house, Brantwood. When I was a boy I had an outdoor servant of Ruskin's called Wilkinson, lived in the lodge there. He told me that when Ruskin became crazy he was dislodged toward the end of his life. Mrs. Severn, his cousin, would have him wheeled in there to cool off.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM BINKS,
14 Elmworthy Terrace,
Primrose Hill, NW3.

From Professor C. B. Cox
Sir, Your admirable leader (September 30) on Labour proposals to abolish private education draws attention to the rights of minorities. In the future private education may become essential to protect the rights of the majority.

It is not sufficiently realized how in recent years the breakdown of a consensus on moral values has changed the educational debate. The obvious example is sex education.

Many parents and I am one of them, want their children to attend schools where teachers inculcate Christian principles. Other people take for granted that young men and women over the age of 16 may properly enjoy temporary sexual relationships as long as they use contraceptives.

There are already areas where a minority of parents find their moral values at odds with those of the senior teachers in their local school. This situation will occur more often in coming years. The liberty of parents to educate their children as they see fit will increasingly

le brainpower

ation Dan- uring pursuit of the list s honours graduates of iversity in today's Times indicates a surprising of women. Of course, have to know the much sex entering the

estimations, but it seems unlikely that there was a preponderance of male students in medicine or pharmacy. Yet in law, eight women were awarded firsts and only four men in pharmacy eight women to five men and in medicine (while I find one or two names, somewhat ambiguous) I make it 30 each. Men so often arrogantly assume



COURT CIRCULAR

RALPHOR CASTLE
October 1: The Prince of Wales, Patron of the Royal Opera, and The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President of The Royal Ballet, were present this evening at an air concert in aid of the Royal Opera House Development Appeal at the Royal Albert Hall, Covent Garden.

NSINGTON PALACE
October 1: The Duke of Devonshire, Lord of the Manor of Nonsuch, and the Countess of Devonshire, Lady of the Manor of Nonsuch, were present at the Nonsuch Palace, Nonsuch Park, Surrey, for the opening of the Nonsuch Palace Museum and the Nonsuch Palace Garden.

DRK HOUSE
October 1: The Duke of Devonshire, Lord of the Manor of Nonsuch, and the Countess of Devonshire, Lady of the Manor of Nonsuch, were present at the Nonsuch Palace, Nonsuch Park, Surrey, for the opening of the Nonsuch Palace Museum and the Nonsuch Palace Garden.

Thanksgiving Service
The Very Rev. Martin L. Dean, Dean of St Paul's, 1987-1997, will be held in St Paul's Cathedral at 11 am on Wednesday, October 15, 1980.

Memorial service
A memorial service for Mrs. Alison (née) Smith, who died on October 1, 1980, will be held at 11 am on Wednesday, October 15, 1980, at St Paul's Cathedral.

Marriages
The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Morgan, of St Paul's, will be held at 11 am on Wednesday, October 15, 1980, at St Paul's Cathedral.

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Seven books put on Booker list

Professor David Daiches and his team have announced a shortlist of seven books for the £10,000 Booker Prize. The shortlist is: *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy.

There is always going to be controversy about selecting novels like beauty contests. But the least controversial name on the list is that of Anthony Burgess for *Earthly Powers*, a story of a Grand Old Man of England solidifying down this century from the past. The novel is a masterpiece of style and substance, and it is a pleasure to read it. The other books on the list are: *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy.

The winner of Britain's most valuable literary prize will be announced on October 21. The shortlist is: *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy; *The Englishman's Boy* by John Galsworthy.

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Margaret Mee (right), the artist, showing her paintings of flowers of the Amazon to Senhor Roberto Campos, the Brazilian Ambassador, and his wife at the Natural History Museum.

Irish bridge team puts Britain in the shade

From a Bridge Correspondent
Netherlands, Oct. 1.
Both British teams are struggling in the Bridge Teams Olympiad and are being upstaged by their near neighbours Ireland. In the Irish team series, in which the British were regarded as certain medalists, Ireland have a clear lead at the head of the table. The British team, led by John Galsworthy, is in fourth place. The Irish team, led by John Galsworthy, is in first place.

The British open team appeared to make little ground on the day when they took 36 out of a possible 60 points. They lost to the Irish team, who took 48 out of a possible 60 points. The British team, led by John Galsworthy, is in fourth place. The Irish team, led by John Galsworthy, is in first place.

Naval promotions
The Royal Navy has approved the following promotions of Officers of the Royal Navy: Mr. J. D. Morgan, of St Paul's, will be promoted to the rank of Captain on October 15, 1980.

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English coins that go up in value

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent
The market in historic English coins went "berserk" yesterday. Glendinning's, the coin auctioneers, sold a piece that was picked up by buyers. The auctioneers said that prices had reached a new peak. Foreign coins, in contrast, sold mainly at expected prices and were the main contributors to the small profit in percentage. The sale totalled £253,560, with under 2 per cent unsold.

A gold George IV 55 piece (proof) of 1826 sold to a private collector for £11,000 (estimate £5,000). Charles II five-shilling of 1668, described as "extremely fine and nicely toned" went to a private collector for £2,000 (estimate £1,000). Further down the scale, a Charles II hammered first-issue half-crown was bid to £1,450 (estimate £600).

Arts education conferences
A series of conferences on arts education in a multicultural society is to be held throughout the country this autumn. The Commission for Racial Equality, the Quaker Foundation, and the Arts Council, the conferences are intended to demonstrate the ways in which arts education can be used to improve the lives of ethnic minorities living in Britain.

Luncheons
The Government Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Lord Carrington, will be the guest of honor at a luncheon held at 1 Carlton Gardens, SW1, yesterday in honor of the Chinese Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister, Mr. Huang Hua.

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Film clips to be shown

By Our Arts Reporter
Excerpts from a film based by the BBC, 15 years ago, will be shown for the first time on October 11 when Sir Hugh Greene former director-general, recalls some of the most famous battles. The film is *The War Game*, in which Peter Watkins showed the possible effects of a nuclear attack on Britain.

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Rear-Admiral Paul Hebrard

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OBITUARY
PROF ANTHONY BETTS
Development of school of art at Reading University

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ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Sept 29. Dealings End, Oct 10. \$ Contango Day, Oct 13. Settlement Day, Oct 20
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]

IMI
for building products, heat exchangers,
pump power, general engineering,
and maintenance, repair and
overhaul services.

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

Bryant
Industrial
Construction

Stock Markets

FT Index 483.2, up 2.2
FT Clits 70.74, up 0.56

Sterling

\$2.3910, up 25 points
Index 75.8, down 0.2

Dollar

Index 83.5, down 0.3
DM1.8085, down 32 pts

Gold

\$680.50, up \$10

Money

3-mth sterling 15 1/4-15 1/2
3-mth Euro \$ 13 1/4-13 1/2
6-mth Euro \$ 13 1/4-13 1/2

US partner for Lucas in micro-chip venture

Two of the world's largest automotive and aerospace component manufacturers, Lucas Industries and the American TRW Corp., are combining to develop a microchip controlled fuel system for diesel engines.

The system, which has been described as "a space age solution to improved emissions and fuel economy" is aimed mainly at the booming diesel engine market in North America.

Car and truck manufacturers who have traditionally used petrol engines are switching to the European type of diesel to take advantage of its greater economy.

World wide sales of diesel engines at present some 5 million a year, are expected to double by the late 1980s.

\$200m diesel plant

International Harvester of the United Kingdom has signed an agreement with BSA, Britain's leading industrial vehicle producer, for a joint venture to set up a \$200m diesel engine plant in Spain with an annual capacity of 80,000 units.

NEB finance director

Mr Tony Blackett has been appointed finance director of the National Enterprise Board. He was previously deputy to Mr Martin Brookman, who has joined the Wellcome Foundation as finance director.

Serck holding sold

Rockwell International, which called off a £33m takeover bid for the United Kingdom Serck group last April after American Justice Department intervention, has agreed to sell its 29.7 per cent holding in Serck within four years. It has also undertaken not to buy into Serck or any other industrial plug valve maker for 10 years.

Yen stronger

The Japanese yen continued its steady climb against all major currencies in foreign currency markets, rising 50 cents the dollar from 210.90 to 208.50 after touching 207.50. Heavy intervention by the Japanese central bank failed to halt the advance.

Petrol usage down

Consumption of petroleum products in the United Kingdom during the three months from June to August was 16.7 per cent lower than the corresponding period last year. North Sea output continued to run ahead of consumption at 19.7 million tonnes.

Toyota investment

Toyota plans to start an \$1,000m (£156m) plant construction and expansion programme at its Kinmaru factory in central Japan for the production of car transmissions and related parts.

Wall Street up

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 7.00 points up at 939.42. The 5 against the SDR was 1.31519. The £ was 0.550665.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises	Falls
Ass News 23p to 30p	Aeron & Gen 15p to 60p
Bridon 8p to 5p	Anchor Chem 3p to 7p
Brookhouse 3p to 2p	Bass 4p to 21p
Global Nat Res 45p to 51p	Dietrich 5p to 21p
Lasso 25p to 77p	Guthrie Corp 12p to 80p

MUM Hires	Bank	Bank
Rediffm Nat 7p to 25p	Bank 11.08	Bank 11.48
Reed Int 5p to 17p	Bank 12.25	Bank 11.08
Tubory Com 7p to 18p	Bank 2.21	Bank 2.09
Tyconit 10.25	Bank 17.50	Bank 17.10
	Bank 14.97	Bank 3.87
	Bank 2.44	Bank 2.37
	Bank 75.00	Bank 70.50

Bank	Bank	Bank
Bank 3.09	Bank 2.02	Bank 11.48
Bank 7.75	Bank 68.25	Bank 11.08
Bank 2.86	Bank 2.75	Bank 11.08
Bank 13.72	Bank 13.17	Bank 11.08
Bank 9.18	Bank 8.70	Bank 11.08
Bank 10.31	Bank 9.86	Bank 11.08
Bank 4.46	Bank 4.25	Bank 11.08
Bank 12.15	Bank 11.50	Bank 11.08
Bank 1.18	Bank 1.14	Bank 11.08
Bank 215.0	Bank 200.00	Bank 11.08
Bank 550.00	Bank 500.00	Bank 11.08
Bank 4.54	Bank 4.62	Bank 11.08

Hadfields steel plants may close in Sheffield with loss of 3,000 jobs

By Ronald Marshaw Northern Industrial Correspondent

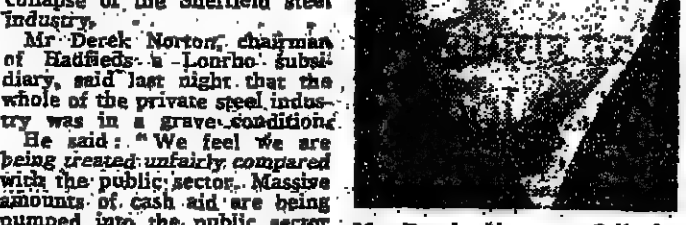
Hadfields, one of Sheffield's main steel manufacturers, is seriously considering closure with the loss of nearly 3,000 jobs unless it gets prompt and substantial Government aid. A special committee representing both public and private steelmakers is to issue a report soon calling for state aid to avert the collapse of the Sheffield steel industry.

Mr Derek Norton, chairman of Hadfields, a London subsidiary, said last night that the whole of the private steel industry was in a grave condition. He said: "We feel we are being treated unfairly compared with the public sector. Massive amounts of cash aid are being pumped into the public sector and yet we are not considered for a penny. At the same time we are expected to compete in the same market. It is quite wrong."

Workers at Hadfields were put on short-time in July because of falling orders and the company's two Sheffield plants are working only at alternate weeks. Mr Norton gave a warning of the need for government intervention, either through selective import controls or some form of subsidy. He said at the time: "We have now reached the position where we are desperately in need of a degree of assistance to the survival of the steel industry."

This summer, the south Yorkshire headquarters of the British Steel Corporation announced plans for one week working at its major plants. The depressed state of the motor industry was a big factor and steel orders in south Yorkshire were 50 per cent lower than a year earlier.

Mr Joseph Pickles, divisional director of the British Steel Trade Union, said: "The Government's decision to provide the BSC with an extra £400m this year. More jobs lost, page 20



Mr Derek Norton: Call for government intervention.

Mr Norton said the steel industry was unable to compete with overseas steelmakers on energy costs alone. Compared with the energy costs of overseas steel makers, the British industry was facing "unbelievable" charges which meant they were having to operate against unfair competition. Mr Pickles said his union had been concerned for a long time about the future of Hadfields. It had sought meetings with the Government and with the company. Hadfields workers agreed to London yesterday to lobby the Department of Industry for government aid.

The crisis in both the public and private steel sectors has led to speculation that the Government may commission a detailed inquiry into the industry (Peter Hill writes).

Leaders of the private sector steelmakers later today will be discussing the implications of the latest news in demand and the effect of the Government's decision to provide the BSC with an extra £400m this year. More jobs lost, page 20

EEC rushes through new rescue plan

From Peter Newman Brussels, Oct 1

The European Commission tonight announced that it would draw up a new plan to aid the European steel industry to be ready by next Monday.

After a hearing, the Commission's Economic and Financial Affairs Directorate, which is in charge of the steel industry, concluded that the worsening financial position of European steelmakers was threatening jobs and increasing unemployment. The Commission had been studying the industry over the past few years. A brief statement said that the Commission would seek not only to restore equilibrium in the industry but would also try to remove the uncertainties at present hanging over the workers in the sector.

Between now and next Monday the Commission will have a series of discussions with all parties concerned with the industry. Its proposals will be put next Tuesday to ministers from the EEC member states at their regular monthly general affairs council.

Although the Commission gave no concrete indication of the proposals it has in mind it has clearly drawn some comfort from yesterday's meeting between Viscount Davignon and the EEC's 12 biggest steel producers.

The two sides agreed at that meeting on the need for early action to end the worsening state of Europe's steel market which is characterized by over-production and falling prices.

It is still unclear whether the Commission will propose the use of Article 58 of the European Coal and Steel Community Treaty by which it can order production quotas.

EEC rushes through new rescue plan

The French and Belgian have advocated the use of Article 58 of the government industry and trade unions in Germany have made clear that they will oppose such a step.

In Britain it is understood that the British Steel Corporation would favor mandatory production quotas, while the Government has been studiously avoiding taking a position, awaiting the Commission's proposals.

Measures accepted: The European Commission and the United States Government have agreed to hold regular consultation on moves being taken to restructure the steel industries on both sides of the Atlantic (Frank Vogt writes from Washington).

"They have agreed that a transitional period is needed to achieve the restructuring, during which some restraints on free trade in steel should be allowed."

Viscount Davignon has written to Mr Kenneth Campbell, United States special trade representative, to underline European understanding of the measures announced yesterday by President Carter to strengthen the American steel industry.

Viscount Davignon said that because reinstatement of the American trigger price mechanism to regulate the pricing of steel imports would be temporary, it was acceptable to the Europeans.

The Commission has been clearly told that the trigger price system might be in place for five years.

It appears that the EEC has decided to accept the American measures because it feared that opposing them would lead the United States to impose far more protectionist policies.

EEC rushes through new rescue plan

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Blue Circle Industries, Britain's largest cement maker, was yesterday given permission to bid again for Armitage Shanks. The Monopolies Commission investigation into the merger of the two firms was accepted by Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Trade, concluded that a merger would not be against the public interest.

Blue Circle and Armitage Shanks welcomed the report and said that a further announcement would be made as soon as each had studied the implications of the report.

Mr Kennedy Campbell, chairman of Armitage Shanks, said that the two sides would be meeting before the weekend to discuss the report and to see if further agreements could be reached.

The board of Armitage Shanks recommended the original bid from Blue Circle, and Mr Campbell said: "Nothing has happened to change that view."

Blue Circle first bid for Armitage, the last of the independent cement manufacturers, in January and the terms allowed Armitage to run around £30m.

However, the merger was referred to the Monopolies Commission in February after 61 per cent of the Armitage shareholders accepted the Blue Circle offer.

The Monopolies Commission's report concluded that, on the basis of assurances it had received from Blue Circle and for other reasons, a merger was unlikely to reduce competition in the markets supplied by Armitage Shanks. Nor did they think it would reduce Armitage's efficiency or worsen employment prospects.

Blue Circle has given assurances that it will not offer favourable terms on any of Armitage's products to win business for other parts of the group. Nor would it encourage Armitage to offer uncompetitive prices calculated to drive competitors out of business.

Blue Circle said in August, when it announced a £47m rights issue and intended interim profits, that it intended to reopen negotiations with Armitage if the commission's report was favourable.

Its original share exchange offer of one Blue Circle share for one Armitage share was accepted by Armitage shareholders at 90p.

But since then Blue Circle's shares have risen strongly, closing yesterday at 346p, down 2p. On the basis of the original offer this would value each Armitage share at 115p. Yesterday, Armitage shares closed 61p higher at 115p.

Financial Editor, page 21

Bid clearance for Blue Circle

By Peter Wilson-Smith

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Financial Editor, page 21

Cleveland mine 'last chance' for survival

By our Financial Staff

After almost eight years of increasing losses, Cleveland Potash is being given one last chance to reach break-even by the Anglo American Corporation of South Africa, which assumed financial responsibility for the Yorkshire mine last year.

It means a drastic scaling back of the mine's operations, and potash production is to be cut from around 870,000 tonnes a year to 360,000 tonnes. The mine will work for only 5 days a week instead of 7 and almost half the workforce of 1,500 are being made redundant. Negotiations over redundancy payments are under way.

After overcoming considerable environmental hurdles in the late 1960s to start potash mining, Cleveland was bedeviled by technical and geological problems which prevented production reaching original expectations.

Cleveland is jointly owned by Anglo American and Charter Consolidated, its close United Kingdom associate, following ICI's decision to pull out of the project last October.

ICI, which controlled 50 per cent of the project, sold its interest to the Anglo group for a nominal sum but agreed to buy most of the output for its fertilizer business.

After the restructuring of Charter, Anglo and Charter emerged as joint owners, but Anglo agreed to provide the finance for future development.

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Government policies under review

From David Blake Economics Editor Washington, Oct 1

An intensive review of the Government's monetary and economic policy is due to take place tomorrow, and one of the key figures will be Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who was flying back tonight from Washington, where he has been attending the annual meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Before he left Sir Geoffrey made it clear that he felt the Government was "right to continue to pursue the objectives of the medium-term financial strategy". But he added that the Government would "review the weapons" it was using and adjust according to how they were working.

Discussions seem likely to focus on the extent to which the medium-term strategy will have to be modified after the unexpectedly large growth in money supply earlier this year. The Government will also be considering what to do about interest rates.

There has been widespread speculation that there will be a cut in minimum lending rate soon. Sir Geoffrey said that there it was consistent with the Government's policy on monetary control. It was clearly desirable to get interest rates down, but he stressed that this did not imply anything about the timing or size of any change.

Generally, he deflected questions about the economy, though he roundly rejected the idea of a statutory incomes policy. The statement by Mr Jacques de Larosiere, managing director of the IMF, did not call for formal incomes policies as such but merely stressed the need for sensible pay settlements, something which the Government had also done and where "we are making some progress".

The Chancellor reaffirmed his belief that overseas investment by United Kingdom companies was a valuable contribution to building up assets for the time when North Sea oil was exhausted.

Sir Geoffrey turned aside questions on how long the Government would wait before conceding that its policy might not have been successful. He stressed that the whole mood of the meeting of the IMF and World Bank had been dominated by a recognition of the central role which monetary policy played.

His comments on the world economy to the fund meeting took the same theme. He said that although inflation may be beginning to subside it was still too high.

Governments must be ready to say that "short-term sacrifice is unavoidable if we are to lay the foundation for more sustained growth. The cost of alternative policies would ultimately be greater."

Much of Sir Geoffrey's speech concerned relations with developing countries and the "false" division between north and south. It was wrong to think that there were two exclusive groups of this kind, he said. There was enormous diversity within the non-oil developing countries and the members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Sir Geoffrey put forward a proposal for tapping Opec money for the World Bank, suggesting financing deals in which the World Bank would provide the expertise and some of the money and Opec members would come up with the rest of the funds.

The Chancellor rebutted charges by Mr Robert McNamara, president of the World Bank, that the proportion of British gross national product would fall by a quarter in the years to 1985, arguing that it was based on false premises. But he admitted that the second world war. Moreover, the programme of holding down public spending.

United States seeks stronger role for SDR in monetary system

From Frank Vogt US Economics Correspondent Washington, Oct 1

The Carter Administration today went further than ever before in stressing its determination to promote a "special drawing rights-centred international monetary system."

This move has underlined its determination to revive an official role for gold, and coincides with a new effort in the Congress to legislate a stronger monetary role for gold.

Mr William Miller, the United States Secretary of the Treasury, told the joint annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank that the IMF "faces truly serious tasks" and had to be strengthened. In doing so there should be a stronger role for the special drawing rights.

Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina has just introduced a Bill that calls for "the reinstatement of the dollar as a gold reserve currency."

The senator does not expect action on this in the remaining days of the congressional session, but he hopes it will help to promote the Bill at the start of the 1981 session.

Some support for this effort exists among advisers to Mr Ronald Reagan, the Republican candidate in the presidential election.

Mr Miller told a press conference that the Carter administration firmly opposed the demonetization of gold, as it would be a blow to the global monetary system on gold supplies from the Soviet Union and South Africa.

He also went further than any other finance minister at the meeting in advocating IMF borrowing in private markets and indicated that this should be done in special drawing rights.

Mr Miller said that there should be steady allocations of special drawing rights to central banks and that the interest rate on the SDR should be competitive with that of other assets so that its attractiveness was enhanced.

He gave warning, however, that all actions on the SDR had to be done carefully as "it is of paramount importance that we develop the credibility and reliability of the SDR as a reserve asset."

Mr Miller noted that IMF borrowing in the markets raised in concrete terms the possibility of greater private use of SDR-denominated assets. He said that the IMF should think about new ways to increase the acceptance of the SDR in private markets, including the issuing by the World Bank of SDR securities.

He also urged the IMF, as part of its effort to expand the role of the SDR, to continue planning a substitution account under which central banks could place dollars in the IMF and receive SDR-denominated assets in return.

The administration's forceful advocacy of a strong SDR has surprised bankers attending the conference. But informed sources said it was an effort by the administration to bind the government—irrespective of the outcome of November's presidential election—to the principle of a multi-currency reserves system with an IMF managed special drawing right at its centre.

The sources also emphasized that Mr Miller's speech was significant for what it did not say. Apparently there has been some internal administration pressure for an international campaign to strengthen efforts by industrial nations to monitor the debt problems of some of the largest developing countries.

There are, for instance, fears that Brazil will face severe debt problems next year. It has outstanding debts today of \$55,000m. The IMF alone cannot help Brazil. American sources say, and there is talk of the major industrial nations setting together to prepare contingency plans.

Mr Miller said that the United States supported efforts to expand the World Bank, including the establishment of an energy bank.

Which way for the IMF? page 21

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Mr Miller noted that IMF borrowing in the markets raised in concrete terms the possibility of greater private use of SDR-denominated assets. He said that the IMF should think about new ways to increase the acceptance of the SDR in private markets, including the issuing by the World Bank of SDR securities.

He also urged the IMF, as part of its effort to expand the role of the SDR, to continue planning a substitution account under which central banks could place dollars in the IMF and receive SDR-denominated assets in return.

The administration's forceful advocacy of a strong SDR has surprised bankers attending the conference. But informed sources said it was an effort by the administration to bind the government—irrespective of the outcome of November's presidential election—to the principle of a multi-currency reserves system with an IMF managed special drawing right at its centre.

The sources also emphasized that Mr Miller's speech was significant for what it did not say. Apparently there has been some internal administration pressure for an international campaign to strengthen efforts by industrial nations to monitor the debt problems of some of the largest developing countries.

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Mr Miller said that the United States supported efforts to expand the World Bank, including the establishment of an energy bank.

Which way for the IMF? page 21

United States seeks stronger role for SDR in monetary system

From Frank Vogt US Economics Correspondent Washington, Oct 1

The Carter Administration today went further than ever before in stressing its determination to promote a "special drawing rights-centred international monetary system."

This move has underlined its determination to revive an official role for gold, and coincides with a new effort in the Congress to legislate a stronger monetary role for gold.

Mr William Miller, the United States Secretary of the Treasury, told the joint annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank that the IMF "faces truly serious tasks" and had to be strengthened. In doing so there should be a stronger role for the special drawing rights.

Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina has just introduced a Bill that calls for "the reinstatement of the dollar as a gold reserve currency."

The senator does not expect action on this in the remaining days of the congressional session, but he hopes it will help to promote the Bill at the start of the 1981 session.

Some support for this effort exists among advisers to Mr Ronald Reagan, the Republican candidate in the presidential election.

Mr Miller told a press conference that the Carter administration firmly opposed the demonetization of gold, as it would be a blow to the global monetary system on gold supplies from the Soviet Union and South Africa.

He also went further than any other finance minister at the meeting in advocating IMF borrowing in private markets and indicated that this should be done in special drawing rights.

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1979	
6 months to June 30 £000	12 months to Dec 31 £000
10,219	21,598
1,143	2,529
146	445

Birmingham 538 9PN 021-458 6571

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Hopes of MLR cut send prices racing ahead

Most leading sections of the market remained in good form yesterday, encouraged by hopes of a cut in MLR, after next Tuesday's banking figures, which are likely to be somewhat better than originally expected.

Prices raced ahead from the start spurred by the overnight performance of Wall Street, which was followed by further institutional support. Electricals were another strong feature as buyers eagerly sought bargains but prices were slightly exaggerated by a shortage of stock on the part of most jobbers. Oils too featured strongly with most of the buying concentrated among the second liners and those with North Sea interests as the conflict between Iran and Iraq grows worse.

However, market conditions remained volatile, and profit-taking after hours soon developed, which in turn saw most prices off the top at the close. The FT index, which had risen by 6.0 at midday, eventually closed only 2.2 up at 483.2.

Glits also made further progress on hopes of a cut in interest rates next week. Jobbers reported rises of between 1/2 and 1/4 at the longer end, although profit-taking after hours saw this reduced to 1/8-1/4 at the close. In shorts, strong institutional support saw prices expand by 1/2 overall with profit-taking leaving them a shade off bear levels at the close.

Industrial leaders experienced some patchy trade with most prices closing earlier on the day where changed. The exception

was Rank Organisation, which rose 4p to 164p. But elsewhere, ICI shed 2p to 346p, Unilever 2p to 491p and Boveri was 2p

Shares of GKN look set for another morning after a meeting of the board with the group's brokers, Rowe & Pitman, yesterday. Word is the second half looks just as bad as the first, particularly in the United Kingdom. But the shares rose 3p to 182p yesterday, along with the rest of the market.

easier at 167p. Distillers fell 5p to 216p mainly on lack of interest following a week of hectic buying by the Europeans as Scottish investors unloaded stock.

The go-ahead for the bid by Blue Circle from the Monopolies Commission saw shares

of Armitage Shanks harden 5 1/2p to 113p. But Blue Circle eased 2p to 346p.

The announcement that Associated Newspapers was closing the loss-making Evening News and selling the title to Trafalgar House, publishers of the Evening Standard, sent Associated shares up 23p to 309p, with the Daily Mail - A jumping 12p to 508p. Trafalgar House shares firmed 4p to 71p.

News International, run by Australian newspaper magnate Mr Rupert Murdoch, added 4p to 95p, but Reed International fell 6p to 187p.

Electricals had another active session helped by stock short-

Among the second liners, Electromechanics rose 28p to 716p, accompanied by Ferranti 26p to 457p, and Farrel Electronics 13p to 341p, ahead of figures due out soon.

Engineers also attracted support. Hawker Siddeley rose 4p to 228p, B. Elliot 7p to 213p, Rassome Hoffman and Pollard 5p to 102p and Babcock International 6p to 95p.

Breweries were a weak sector as sellers took their cue ahead due out tomorrow which is expected to show beer sales down by as much as 19 per cent. Figures reveal a fall of 11 per cent in the South and 30 per cent in the North. As a result, Bass eased 4p to 218p. However, the latest round of new oil licences and the continuing conflict in the Middle East opened the way for another strong session among oils,

particularly the second liners. Arco rose 14p to 270p following the award of several licences to drill for oil in the North Sea. Others to gain ground included Global Natural Resources 46p to 510p, Charterhall 5p to 83p, KCA International 7p to 163p and Berkeley Exploration 12p to 238p.

Equity turnover on October 1 was 1,531m (£152) but gains: Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Laidlaw, Charterhall, Plessey, BP, KCA International, 12p to 238p.

Royal Bank of Scotland shares raced ahead 10p to 105p yesterday as between 2m and 3m shares were placed in the market. But Citibank, strongly tipped as a prospective bidder, has firmly denied the rumour.

BTR New, ICI, Rascal, GEC, GKN, National Westminster Bank, Premier Oil, Rank, Charter Consolidated, and Consolidated Gold Fields.

Traded options continued to gather strength yesterday along with the main market as total contracts rose from 1,109 to 1,874. Laidlaw again led the field on 504 contracts as dealers reported most series traded. BP remained active on 267 with the October 420p series proving popular.

Traditional options also reported a pickup in activity with calls in Hamble Life at rate of 32p along with FNFC at 51p, Northern Kalguri on 16p and Bridon at 8p. Doubles were completed in Ultramar, Shell, FNFC and also BSG where the rate opened at 31p.

Trading conditions worsen for Summer

Sales at Francis Summer (Holdings) fell by only 5.2 per cent to £8.2m in the six months to June 30, but pretax profits dropped by 40 per cent to £225,500, which, for a conglomerate in textiles, engineering and plastics, cannot be considered bad.

What is ominous is the decision to cut the interim dividend from 0.75p a share to 0.50p and the news that, though trading started to hit activity in all divisions only in the second quarter of the year.

It is understood that the group is still trading profitably, but the key months are only just beginning. It has seen a "fluster" of activity but not enough to arouse hopes. There is a danger of only a token final or none at all. Summer tends to pay a high interim in relation to the final.

Under Mr Colin Astin, the new managing director from Barclays Merchant Bank, the group has cut output and labour in every department and should benefit rapidly from an upturn in business.

In textiles it specializes in embroidery, which means it does not suffer unduly from imports, and the engineering division does a lot of work for Mothercare. Summer distributes plastics rather than manufactures them.

The debt-equity ratio is still low. An extraordinary profit of £101,712 has been made from the sale of surplus plant. The shares rose 2p to 5p.

A F Bulgin announces £1m rights issue as interim profits slip

Electrical components group A. F. Bulgin announced a 10.5 per cent drop in interim pretax profits and an unexpected £1.08m rights issue yesterday.

Explaining the timing of the issue, Mr Robert Bulgin, the deputy managing director, said: "I think it is exactly the right time. We are poised for take-off as soon as there is any upturn."

The net proceeds of £1.02m will go on developing a distribution division in Portsmouth on a freehold property for the expansion of the Croydron distribution company; on the development of more sophisticated components; and on further investment in the energy sector. Bulgin holds 63.3 per cent of exploration company CCP North Sea.

Trading is more difficult, with recession affecting Bulgin's diverse client industries. The group is not expecting any material improvement in the autumn half.

Interim pretax profits to £511,000 on turnover per cent at £2.94m. The dividend of 0.53p gross changed, but the company tends to maintain the dividend at the increased capital.

The terms of the issue, which is underwritten by stockist Vivian, Gray, are one non "A" share at 2p for every "A" or ordinary share. The "A" shares issued 27p to 351p yesterday.

Directors, who have been interested in 5 per cent shares, will rate up their interests. The new company, Components, will have as well as A. F. Bulgin, brand, Croydron company, Distribution will amount to £250,000 of the issue proceeds on premises and fresh from the Bulgin group is primarily placed with its parent in CCP and wants in position now in the advantages of any developments in the energy sector.

But the interim dividend of 0.53p gross, first dividend will depend on the conditions prevailing at the time. Mr Bulgin said: "Last year's final was 4.17p gross."

Anchor falls 24pc but holds interim

By Rosemary Unsworth
Anchor Chemical, the manufacturer and distributor, has maintained its dividend at 24p per share despite a 24 per cent fall in interim profits.

Pretax profits went from £350,000 to £267,000 while turnover dipped slightly from £7.15m to £7m in the six months to June 30, 1980. Mr B. Pugh, chairman, said the group was unable to forecast the level of profit for the full year. Last year the Manchester-based group made £786,000 profit.

Home sales during the first half advanced from £3.4m to £3.9m but this is not likely to be repeated in the second half, as much of the improvement came from one source. Exports were down by 39 per cent to £1.2m largely because of the strength of sterling overseas sales showed a 12 per cent improvement to £1.93m.

Mr Pugh explained that the group's interim dividend of 24p is based on the first six months of the year. The interim dividend is based on the first six months of the year. The interim dividend is based on the first six months of the year.

With the interim dividend maintained at 24p gross, first dividend will depend on the conditions prevailing at the time. Mr Pugh said: "Last year's final was 4.17p gross."

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Tax threat to Alfred Walker

Alfred Walker will face a severe cash-flow problem if the Inland Revenue is successful in its challenge over certain tax-saving transactions.

The Birmingham building contractor and property developer has set aside £300,000 and accrued interest in its latest accounts as a contingent liability in case the Revenue wins its case.

Mr Raymond Walker, the chairman, says that the company's professional advisers assure the board that the transactions were, and still are, perfectly valid.

After a sharp improvement in the group's fortunes in 1979 to last June, when pretax profits rose from £53,000 to £123,000, Mr Walker says the prospects for the current year are optimistic. To help liquidate investment properties has been sold, improving cash flow by £114,000.

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Briefly

London Pavilion: Pretax profit half year to June 30 £34,000 (£35,000). All expenditure relating to proposed redevelopment of the London Pavilion site up to June 30 totalling £11,000 has been included in fixed assets.

London and Commercial Advertising Holdings: Turnover half year to June 30 £695,000 (year to December 31 1979 £781,000). Pretax profit £143,000 (£16,000). No contingent liabilities. No contingent liabilities. No contingent liabilities.

Murray Caledonian Investment Trust: NCB Staff Superannuation Scheme and Mineworkers' Pension Scheme bought 400,000 shares on September 30 and jointly held 4.10m shares (7.62 per cent).

A Beckman: Turnover for year to June 30 £13.35m (£19.1m). Pretax profit £957,000 (£2,211m). EPS 4.4p (10.8p). Dividend 5.75p (same). Sir Joseph Cusack and Sons has acquired Hunkydory Designs for £200,000 cash paid on completion and a further £100,000 in cash payable on May 1, 1981, subject to agreement with Mr Brian Shawcross, who owned 48.35 per cent of Hunkydory. Further amounts in cash, may become payable depending on Hunkydory's profits before tax.

Birrell Quilcast proposes to take a substantial interest in Midlands newest TV. Midlands one of the three competitors for the East and West Midlands commercial TV franchise. The investment opens up the possibility of forming one of its surplus properties into a studio complex.

Laganvale Estate: Recent rights issue accepted in respect of 3.08m shares (196.65 per cent). Following the issue, Merghill Investments has 57,000 and Strongmead holds 1,426m shares (15.3 per cent).

Sparrow-Montalev deal

G. W. Sparrow and Sons, the international crane hire and lifting specialists of Bath, and Montalev of France have formed a joint venture company, Montalev-Sparrow, to be based in France.

Sparrow, one of the most extensive fleet ranges of mobile and crawler cranes in the world, including the world's largest truck crane, has nationwide coverage through its depots in the United Kingdom, including a base at Aberdeen. Its other interests include a company based in Houston, Texas, and a joint venture company, Rezyat-Sparrow Arabian Crane Hire, based in Saudi Arabia.

Montalev, part of the Entrepose Group, is a major installation, erection and heavy lift contractor with more than 25 years' worldwide experience serving many industries.

Sony shares issue

Sony Corporation said yesterday that it will issue 15 million common stock shares to raise money for equipment investment and to increase production of video tape recorders.

Extracted from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr Jack Steinberg at the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, October 1st, 1980.

Abwood accounts are qualified by auditors

By Catherine Gunn

Accounting irregularities discovered at Abwood Machine Tools by Mr Geoffrey Suckling, the new chairman, earlier this year, have led to a qualification of the 1979-80 accounts. There are other contingent liabilities running into six figures, Mr Suckling said yesterday, which will take "months rather than weeks" to sort out.

In January Mr Suckling discovered that sales invoices were being put through the books early and stocks and work-in-progress were not being priced according to the company's stated policy.

Ex-managing director Mr Alan Peck's appointment was subsequently terminated, and Mr Suckling became chief executive. Mr Peck is claiming unfair dismissal, and the industrial tribunal's hearing has been adjourned until December. At the annual meeting on October 22 there will be a resolution not to re-elect Mr Peck, who is still on the board but retires this year by rotation.

Former auditors Shipley

Black resigned on June 24, and have since been replaced with Gane Jackson & Walton, who have qualified the accounts for the year to March 31, 1980. In the light of the chairman's remarks in his report, in their opinion neither the published loss nor the movement of funds statement show a true and fair view of the company's affairs at that date.

But the pre-tax loss of £150,000 last year is believed by the board to reflect the full extent of the effects of accounting irregularities in prior years. But the other substantial liabilities have to be dealt with next.

"I would hope to appoint an outside managing director as soon as the company is back on its feet", Mr Suckling said yesterday.

Trading has got very tough in the machine tools industry because of the recession, and Abwood has gone onto short-time working. Mr Suckling is confident that the group will survive its double trouble to push forward once the market recovers.

Syltore to raise £1m

Shareholders in Syltore, the engineering and electrical distribution group, agreed yesterday to the raising of £1m through a placing of one million 9 per cent convertible redeemable preference shares 1983-90 of £1 each at par to Equity Capital for Industry. Conversion would give ECI 13.5 per cent of the equity.

Syltore would have found it

hard to make a rights issue to repay bank loans and finance new capacity at the Drum Engineering subsidiary, the fastest growing division.

In 1972 pretax profits were £200,000. In the year to March they were £1.3m. Around 35 per cent of sales are exported. In 1979-80 total pretax profits went up from £1.43m to £1.84m.

Downturn at Comfort Hotels

Higher interest charges and rising costs cut profits at Comfort Hotels International by more than a third in the 28 weeks to July 13. After a 47 per cent rise in interest charges to £817,000, pretax profits fell from £1.1m to £729,000. Turnover rose from £8.11m to £10.4m.

Comfort, which also embraces Dayville's ice-cream parlours and Strakes hamburger chain, does not expect to match 1979's record £2.5m profit. But Mr Harold Edwards, the chairman, says the second half is normally more profitable.

Partly because of the seasonal nature of the five overseas hotels, out of the total of 220, Comfort's place in the market - it operates two and three star hotels - has been protected from the worst of the downturn in the trade and occupancy rates were only slightly lower. But margins were squeezed as cost increases outstripped price rises.

Dayville's profits were down because of the cool summer and reorganization costs. Unprofitable franchises have been weeded out, and more emphasis put on wholesaler. Strakes had a very good half and is expected to contribute about 35 per cent of group profits in 1980.

The interim dividend has been raised from 0.25p gross to 0.29p. Estimated half-year profits were down from £280,000 to £48,000 and capital allowances should ensure a lower full-year charge.

Business appointments
New executive chairman for Stanley Tools

Mr Bennett Lord has become executive chairman of Stanley Tools. Mr Stuart Davies, current managing director, is now vice-chairman.

Mr Norman S. Foss has been made director in charge of credit finance division, Lombard North Central.

Mr J. P. D. Hancox and Mr J. Groswood became non-executive directors of Thomas Warrington and Sons.

Mr J. E. Grandridge is the new group managing director of Negrelli and Zamboni. Mr J. B. Goughall has joined the board and Mr T. J. Adams is the new financial director in his place.

Mr Tony Berry has been made an associate director of Sarabex, London.

Mr Ron D. Hughes becomes marketing director of Mobil Oil Company.

Mr Anthony Chancellor is to join the board of Tring Rail Securities. Mr J. Schloes, director of RUT, has joined the board of Target Trust Managers in a non-executive capacity. Mr Brian Weston, has joined as finance director and he is also a director

and general manager of Unit Trust Services. Mrs S. Chamber, formerly marketing manager of Target Trust Managers, has been made an executive director. Mr Stuart Domesley and Mr John Hodson, directors of Target Fund Managers, are also made directors of Target Trust Managers.

Mr Martin R. Brookman has joined the Wellcome Foundation as group finance director. He was previously finance director of the National Enterprise Board.

Mr W. H. Green becomes a director of Credit Factoring International.

Mr Ken Bradshaw is now marketing director of Plessey State Division.

Mr Geoffrey Croton is the new managing director of Brynmston Insurance Company.

Mr A. Jefferson, has been made trackwork director and Mr R. H. L. Phillips, finance director of Grant Lloyds, railway engineers.

Mr J. P. U. Burr becomes chairman of Sidney C. Banks. Mr P. R. Lawrence and Mr J. M. Horwell have been made joint chairmen of Devitt (Midlands) and Devitt Associates.



Photograph by John Manning

Warner Holidays annual meeting: Shareholders of the Hampshire-based group met at the Café Royal in London yesterday. Pictured, left to right, are Mr Henry Warner, managing director, Mr J. O. C.

J B Holdings fights back

Recession or no recession, Surrey-based J.B. Holdings has come fighting back after the setback to profits in 1979. In the first half of 1980, pretax profits managed a 36 per cent increase to £1m, on the back of a 54 per cent jump in turnover to £20.91m.

J.B.'s board reports that this increased activity has been sustained by all divisions and is especially profitable in view of the depressed British economy and the effect on international competitiveness of high United Kingdom inflation and the strong pound. The interim payment is held at 2.14p gross.

J.B. covers engineering, hydraulics and civil engineering.

Swan Hunter to pay third distribution

The board of Swan Hunter is proposing to make the third distribution on October 24 of 3.5p per ordinary share to members on the register at the close of business on October 6. These proposals must remain conditional as further unforeseen claims might materialize before the warrants are posted.

For the year to January 12 has been agreed at £499,000. After payment of this amount and the intended third distribution, the joint liquidators will be retaining some £480,000 (nominal value) variable Treasury stock, 1981, and a small balance with the bankers. No estimate can as yet be given of the date of any further distribution.

Electronic Machine getting better

Electronic Machine completed its second year of recovery in the 12 months to April 30 with pretax profits 63

Commodities

Heavy loss at Parings Mining

In the 12 months to June 30, 1980, Parings Mining and Exploration Co of Australia made a net loss of £274,000 compared with the previous year's loss of £17,000. In 1980, the company points out, £50,000 issue costs and £23,000 interest charges were included in operating costs were written off against the year's results; there were no write-offs in 1979.

Grain export credit

Polish Bank International has arranged a \$30m (72.5m) line of credit to Bank Handlowy w Warszawie, to finance exports of bread, cereals and grain to Britain and Italy and to Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia.

The credit is guaranteed by the Export Credits Guarantee Department. The loan will help to ensure that Poland's share of United Kingdom exporters by C.R.S. Rolimpex of Paris.

Charterhall: No dividend (same)

For the year to June 30, Turnover £1,000,000, Profit £230,000 (£136,000 after investment provision of £233,000). Loss per share 0.24p (0.56p). Small deficit reflects the fact that Charterhall is a developing group's energy investments. In period leading up to receipt of substantial income from group's North Sea ventures, after taking account of interest received and a surplus from the financial

Wall Street

Wall Street

New York, Oct 1—Prices on the New York Stock Exchange closed higher with the index up 0.99 to 73.37 and the average price per share ahead 49 cents. The Dow Jones Industrial average rose 7.06 to 939.42. Advances led declines 916 to 633 as volume expanded to 45,720,000 shares from 40,290,600 yesterday.

Volume leader Atlantic Richfield

Money Market Rates

field rose 49 to 56, Exxon rose 72 to 73, Texaco one to 3, Standard Oil (Ohio) one to 62, Superior Oil 8 to 10, Shell OH 32 to 47 and Gexco five to 50.

Among offfield service issues, Zapata rose 33 to 39, Gossouro 32 to 101, Halliburton 33 to 135, Schlumberger 41 to 137 and Huls 70 to 121.

Rails were strong. Union Pacific rose 24 to 38, Burlington Northern 31 to 43, Norfolk and Western 31 to 44, and Chessie System 31 to 40.

Car and steel issues declined. General Motors, which raised prices, lost 12 to 51, Ford Motor gained 12 to 27, US Steel 11 to 21, Bethlehem Steel 12 to 34 and Armco 4 to 32.

Colonial Penn group lost 12 to 20.

Money Market Rates

Active IBM gained 11 to 655, Xerox climbed 22 to 781. It raised rental and sales prices eight percent on domestic products and 13 percent on services.

US commodities

COPPER Futures, closed 80 in London, on 100 lb. Dec. 1979, 110.00; Jan. 1980, 109.00; Feb. 1980, 108.00; Mar. 1980, 107.00; Apr. 1980, 106.00; May 1980, 105.00; Jun. 1980, 104.00; Jul. 1980, 103.00; Aug. 1980, 102.00; Sep. 1980, 101.00; Oct. 1980, 100.00; Nov. 1980, 99.00; Dec. 1980, 98.00; Jan. 1981, 97.00; Feb. 1981, 96.00; Mar. 1981, 95.00; Apr. 1981, 94.00; May 1981, 93.00; Jun. 1981, 92.00; Jul. 1981, 91.00; Aug. 1981, 90.00; Sep. 1981, 89.00; Oct. 1981, 88.00; Nov. 1981, 87.00; Dec. 1981, 86.00; Jan. 1982, 85.00; Feb. 1982, 84.00; Mar. 1982, 83.00; Apr. 1982, 82.00; May 1982, 81.00; Jun. 1982, 80.00; Jul. 1982, 79.00; Aug. 1982, 78.00; Sep. 1982, 77.00; Oct. 1982, 76.00; Nov. 1982, 75.00; Dec. 1982, 74.00; Jan. 1983, 73.00; Feb. 1983, 72.00; Mar. 1983, 71.00; Apr. 1983, 70.00; May 1983, 69.00; Jun. 1983, 68.00; Jul. 1983, 67.00; Aug. 1983, 66.00; Sep. 1983, 65.00; Oct. 1983, 64.00; Nov. 1983, 63.00; Dec. 1983, 62.00; Jan. 1984, 61.00; Feb. 1984, 60.00; Mar. 1984, 59.00; Apr. 1984, 58.00; May 1984, 57.00; Jun. 1984, 56.00; Jul. 1984, 55.00; Aug. 1984, 54.00; Sep. 1984, 53.00; Oct. 1984, 52.00; Nov. 1984, 51.00; Dec. 1984, 50.00; Jan. 1985, 49.00; Feb. 1985, 48.00; Mar. 1985, 47.00; Apr. 1985, 46.00; May 1985, 45.00; Jun. 1985, 44.00; Jul. 1985, 43.00; Aug. 1985, 42.00; Sep. 1985, 41.00; Oct. 1985, 40.00; Nov. 1985, 39.00; Dec. 1985, 38.00; Jan. 1986, 37.00; Feb. 1986, 36.00; Mar. 1986, 35.00; Apr. 1986, 34.00; May 1986, 33.00; Jun. 1986, 32.00; Jul. 1986, 31.00; Aug. 1986, 30.00; Sep. 1986, 29.00; Oct. 1986, 28.00; Nov. 1986, 27.00; Dec. 1986, 26.00; Jan. 1987, 25.00; Feb. 1987, 24.00; Mar. 1987, 23.00; Apr. 1987, 22.00; May 1987, 21.00; Jun. 1987, 20.00; Jul. 1987, 19.00; Aug. 1987, 18.00; Sep. 1987, 17.00; Oct. 1987, 16.00; Nov. 1987, 15.00; Dec. 1987, 14.00; Jan. 1988, 13.00; Feb. 1988, 12.00; Mar. 1988, 11.00; Apr. 1988, 10.00; May 1988, 9.00; Jun. 1988, 8.00; Jul. 1988, 7.00; Aug. 1988, 6.00; Sep. 1988, 5.00; Oct. 1988, 4.00; Nov. 1988, 3.00; Dec. 1988, 2.00; Jan. 1989, 1.00; Feb. 1989, 0.00; Mar. 1989, -1.00; Apr. 1989, -2.00; May 1989, -3.00; Jun. 1989, -4.00; Jul. 1989, -5.00; Aug. 1989, -6.00; Sep. 1989, -7.00; Oct. 1989, -8.00; Nov. 1989, -9.00; Dec. 1989, -10.00; Jan. 1990, -11.00; Feb. 1990, -12.00; Mar. 1990, -13.00; Apr. 1990, -14.00; May 1990, -15.00; Jun. 1990, -16.00; Jul. 1990, -17.00; Aug. 1990, -18.00; Sep. 1990, -19.00; Oct. 1990, -20.00; Nov. 1990, -21.00; Dec. 1990, -22.00; Jan. 1991, -23.00; Feb. 1991, -24.00; Mar. 1991, -25.00; Apr. 1991, -26.00; May 1991, -27.00; Jun. 1991, -28.00; Jul. 1991, -29.00; Aug. 1991, -30.00; Sep. 1991, -31.00; Oct. 1991, -32.00; Nov. 1991, -33.00; Dec. 1991, -34.00; Jan. 1992, -35.00; Feb. 1992, -36.00; Mar. 1992, -37.00; Apr. 1992, -38.00; May 1992, -39.00; Jun. 1992, -40.00; Jul. 1992, -41.00; Aug. 1992, -42.00; Sep. 1992, -43.00; Oct. 1992, -44.00; Nov. 1992, -45.00; Dec. 1992, -46.00; Jan. 1993, -47.00; Feb. 1993, -48.00; Mar. 1993, -49.00; Apr. 1993, -50.00; May 1993, -51.00; Jun. 1993, -52.00; Jul. 1993, -53.00; Aug. 1993, -54.00; Sep. 1993, -55.00; Oct. 1993, -56.00; Nov. 1993, -57.00; Dec. 1993, -58.00; Jan. 1994, -59.00; Feb. 1994, -60.00; Mar. 1994, -61.00; Apr. 1994, -62.00; May 1994, -63.00; Jun. 1994, -64.00; Jul. 1994, -65.00; Aug. 1994, -66.00; Sep. 1994, -67.00; Oct. 1994, -68.00; Nov. 1994, -69.00; Dec. 1994, -70.00; Jan. 1995, -71.00; Feb. 1995, -72.00; Mar. 1995, -73.00; Apr. 1995, -74.00; May 1995, -75.00; Jun. 1995, -76.00; Jul. 1995, -77.00; Aug. 1995, -78.00; Sep. 1995, -79.00; Oct. 1995, -80.00; Nov. 1995, -81.00; Dec. 1995, -82.00; Jan. 1996, -83.00; Feb. 1996, -84.00; Mar. 1996, -85.00; Apr. 1996, -86.00; May 1996, -87.00; Jun. 1996, -88.00; Jul. 1996, -89.00; Aug. 1996, -90.00; Sep. 1996, -91.00; Oct. 1996, -92.00; Nov. 1996, -93.00; Dec. 1996, -94.00; Jan. 1997, -95.00; Feb. 1997, -96.00; Mar. 1997, -97.00; Apr. 1997, -98.00; May 1997, -99.00; Jun. 1997, -100.00; Jul. 1997, -101.00; Aug. 1997, -102.00; Sep. 1997, -103.00; Oct. 1997, -104.00; Nov. 1997, -105.00; Dec. 1997, -106.00; Jan. 1998, -107.00; Feb. 1998, -108.00; Mar. 1998, -109.00; Apr. 1998, -110.00; May 1998, -111.00; Jun. 1998, -112.00; Jul. 1998, -113.00; Aug. 1998, -114.00; Sep. 1998, -115.00; Oct. 1998, -116.00; Nov. 1998, -117.00; Dec. 1998, -118.00; Jan. 1999, -119.00; Feb. 1999, -120.00; Mar. 1999, -121.00; Apr. 1999, -122.00; May 1999, -123.00; Jun. 1999, -124.00; Jul. 1999, -125.00; Aug. 1999, -126.00; Sep. 1999, -127.00; Oct. 1999, -128.00; Nov. 1999, -129.00; Dec. 1999, -130.00; Jan. 2000, -131.00; Feb. 2000, -132.00; Mar. 2000, -133.00; Apr. 2000, -134.00; May 2000, -135.00; Jun. 2000, -136.00; Jul. 2000, -137.00; Aug. 2000, -138.00; Sep. 2000, -139.00; Oct. 2000, -140.00; Nov. 2000, -141.00; Dec. 2000, -142.00; Jan. 2001, -143.00; Feb. 2001, -144.00; Mar. 2001, -145.00; Apr. 2001, -146.00; May 2001, -147.00; Jun. 2001, -148.00; Jul. 2001, -149.00; Aug. 2001, -150.00; Sep. 2001, -151.00; Oct. 2001, -152.00; Nov. 2001, -153.00; Dec. 2001, -154.00; Jan. 2002, -155.00

3 months	15 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	4 months	15 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
4 months	14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14"	6 months	14"
6 months	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ -13 $\frac{1}{4}$ "		

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Overnight	Open 16	Close 15
1 week	16 1/4-16	6 months 14 1/2
1 month	16 1/4-16 1/2	9 months 14 1/4
3 months	16 1/4-16 1/2	12 months 14 1/4

COFFEE futures closed with nearbys slipping 0.16 to 51.25 cent and active contracts slipped month to 51.50. **May**, 134.25-134.40; **July**, 134.00-134.10. **Dec.** asked: Sept., 137.00; Dec., 137.00.

COCOA futures finished a dull session with advances ranging from 1/2 to 1/4 in active nearbys and 1/2 to 1/4 in deferred contracts. **May**, 137.00-137.25; **July**, 137.00-137.25; **Dec.**, 137.00-137.25.

	Oct 1	Sept 30	Oct 1	Sept 30	Oct 1	Sept 30
Allied Chem	54	515	54	515	Business	92

[illegible]

1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

[illegible]

[illegible]

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